

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Mar. 1	Bankow, ...	April 9
San Francisco, ...	11	Yokohama, ...	" 6
Hongkong, ...	April 7	Nagasaki, ...	" 10
Tientsin, ...	" 8	Foochow, ...	" 1

Shanghai mail advices of 1st March were received in London on the 5th inst.

PASSENGES.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Abdoly*, from Japan for Shanghai—Messrs. J. M. Ringer, Weston, and Loureiro. For Hongkong—Messrs. St. Chapman Plaisted, Sugama Teike, and Lam Nay Sing. For Singapore—Messrs. Baumgarten, and Andrews and servant. For Colombo—Mr. Mertens and servant. For Marsilles—Messrs. Mertens, Parcher, Rezoetzati, Swono, Reuzo Koga, Fujita, and Sugama.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, 12 APRIL, 1889.

At the end of our leading article on the Famine Relief reports we mentioned the answer of the young Emperor to Wu Ta-ch'eng's request to be allowed to establish a hydrographical board to assist him with the regulation of the Yellow River. The memorial suggesting this is published in the extracts from the *Peking Gazette* in another column. In it the Director-General of the Yellow River begins by enlarging on the value of charts, and he has evidently laid to heart the advice that every foreigner who has taken up the subject has tendered, that the first thing to be done is to have an accurate survey of the river. The only maps of the river now existing are, he says, mostly the work of Yam'en underlings, giving only the roughest outline of the course of the stream, "without marking the degrees of latitude and longitude, or noting the distances," and, of course, without taking any account of the levels. Wu has tried hard to find a skilled cartographer in order to have a proper chart made, but such an expert is not to be found among the officials or literati of Honan. He proposes to the Emperor therefore to establish a Board of Surveyors at Kai-feng-fu to be composed of twenty educated officers and students, for whom he has applied to the Viceroy at Tientsin and Canton, and the Superintendent of the Foochow Arsenal. Thus he will be able to get a proper survey made of the River, from the point where it enters Honan,—which is where the danger of inundation begins—to its mouth. His explanation of the advantages this will secure would, we should have thought, have touched the imagination of the young Emperor. "A mere glance at such a map," he says, "will shew at once the deflections of the course of the river, the breadth of the banks at different places, the points at which the force of the current is greatest, the sand banks, the junction of its tributaries with the main stream, the trend of the hills on both sides, and the distance from each other of the different towns and villages on its banks, while additional details can be filled in from time to time." And he then proposes that to induce the members of the new Board

to take an interest in the work, their names should be recorded in the archives at Peking, and a scheme of rewards should be arranged for them such as were granted to the officials engaged in inaugurating an equally novel institution, the Telegraph Service. This suggestion is supported by such a high authority as the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, and by the Governors of the two provinces which have to bear the brunt of the Yellow River's divagations, Honan and Shantung.

The Memorial is a remarkable one because it shews most strongly that in appointing Wu Ta-ch'eng to the directorship of the River, the Empress Dowager proved again her capacity for government by putting the right man in the right place. He has not been content, as he might have been, with his success in repairing the breach, and turning the river back into its Shantung channel, nor is the surveying work he proposes merely enough, as our northern contemporary suggested, to provide him with "some kind of report at a cheap rate sufficient perhaps to cover his term of office." He has evidently grasped what is wanted, and determined to have a proper and complete survey made by men trained in western scientific methods. Among the officials and literati of Honan there are no doubt plenty of men who would undertake such a survey and compile such charts as have satisfied the river officials heretofore; but Wu will have none of these; he wishes to make his work of permanent value, and he submits to the Throne the only scheme by which this can be done, and the expense of turning the whole work over to foreigners avoided.

We have seen how the Emperor received the suggestion, and the imperial rescript is a valuable if very disappointing, indication of the character of the new ruler of China. The native newspaper published at Canton, the *Kwang Pao*, devoted its leading article a few days ago to a eulogium of the qualities, intelligence and abilities which characterise the young Emperor. Whence that paper derived its information does not appear, but it represented His Majesty as "stimulated by a desire to benefit the welfare of his people and to exercise his manifold qualifications in the consummation of a good and perfect reign." Unfortunately the rescript of the 28th of March is very far from confirming this high estimate. The sufferings of his people from China's

Sorrow are officially supposed to wring the heart of the Emperor, every inundation is a sign of the displeasure of Heaven with some shortcoming on the part of the Throne, and we have seen the Emperor lately telegraphing anxiously for the latest news of the operations at the breach. The foremost of the rising men in China, the man who is believed to have the best chance of succeeding Li in the Vice-Royalty of Chihli, is doing his best to regulate the river, and we should have expected that the Emperor would eagerly have accepted his suggestion, coming from a man whose prestige was enhanced by success. Far from it. The suggestion is not even referred to a board for examination. It is summarily condemned as "premature and ostentatious," and it is commanded that no notice be taken of it.

We can only gather from this that the reports that the Emperor is in the hands of a reactionary and conservative old tutor are well-founded. The determination to stand on the ancient ways is too obvious in this rescript. There are no doubt plenty of precedents for the "transfer of a number of officials for the work of surveying and chart-making," and therefore so much is sanctioned; but the establishment of a Board of Surveyors and the consideration of the rewards to be conferred upon them, are condemned in the curtest manner. This is the first rescript of any importance that has been published since the Emperor assumed the sole power, and it is a discouraging beginning. It is certainly not such an answer as the Empress Dowager would have made, and there is too much reason to fear that it is a sign that progress in China will not be too heartily encouraged under the new régime.

Summary of News.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Saghalien*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION A. AND C. TEL. CO.]
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE FLIGHT OF BOULANGER.

London, 5th April.

The French Chamber of Deputies has adopted the demand of the Ministry for authority to prosecute Boulanger for attempting to overthrow the Republic. Boulanger is at Brussels.

UNDATED NEWS OF STANLEY.

A letter from Stanley recounts his terrible hardships and starvation. He met Emin Pasha at the Albert Nyanza and they were together from December to May.

THE PATRIOTIC LEAGUE SURVIVES.

London, 8th April.

Déroulède and others have been fined one hundred francs and costs which is regarded as a severe check to the Government.

KING JOHN KILLED BY THE DERVISHES.

The King of Abyssinia has been killed in battle with the dervishes.

DEATH OF THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE.

The Dowager Duchess of Cambridge is dead.

ENGLAND AND MOROCCO.

London, 20th March.

Sir James Fergusson stated in the House of Commons that some ships of the Channel Squadron had been sent to Tangiers in consequence of several serious unsettled questions between England and Morocco, especially the murder of a British subject at Cape Juby by soldiers of the Sultan, and the refusal of the latter to allow the submarine cable to be repaired.

OBSTRUCTION TACTICS IN PARLIAMENT.

22nd March.

In pursuance of the avowed policy of persistent obstruction in Supply, Mr. Bradlaugh moved the reduction of Mr. Balfour's salary. After six hours' heated debate, in which the Opposition accused the Government of partiality to the *Times*, the motion was rejected by a majority of sixty-four.

PARLIAMENT.

23rd March.

Another stormy debate took place in Supply. Sir William Harcourt led with an acrid attack upon Sir Richard Webster in connection with *The Times*. Sir Richard Webster rebutted the charges, the Irish members provoking constant scenes in the House. On the motion being put to reduce the vote by the salaries of the Marquis of Salisbury and Sir R. Webster, it was rejected by a majority of eighty votes.

THE NETHERLANDS.

23rd March.

The state of the King is unchanged. The Ministers for the Interior and of Justice have gone to Loo, and it is expected that a temporary Regency will shortly be established under Minister Heemskerk.

THE COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE.

Paris, 25th March.

The Tribunal of Commerce is of opinion that there are no sufficient grounds to liquidate the Comptoir, and has appointed two Administrators to summon a meeting to decide the question.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

London, 25th March.

Count Herbert Bismarck is now in London on a special mission. It is believed that it is for the purpose of arriving at an agreement with regard to Colonial matters.

PARLIAMENT.

A Gladstonian has been elected for Gorton, South-east Lancashire, by a majority of 846.

[The new member succeeds the late Mr. Richard Peacock, iron founder and civil engineer. Mr. Peacock was also a Gladstonian, and in 1886 had a majority of 457. It will be seen that the majority is now materially increased.]

ENGLAND AND MOROCCO.

London, 27th March.

The Sultan of Morocco has assented to the cable being repaired, the Cape Juby affair being reserved for separate settlement.

ROUMANIA.

Prince Ferdinand von Hohenzollern, nephew of King Charles, has been proclaimed heir to the throne of Roumania.

PARLIAMENT.

London, 28th March.

The Sunday Closing Bill has been read a second time in the House of Commons by a majority of 22.

The House has agreed to a resolution in favour of summoning a Conference of the Powers for the repression of Slavery.

THE NETHERLANDS.

London, 29th March.

A joint sitting of the Chambers will take place on the 2nd of April to consider the King's incapacity.

It is reported that Prince Adolph of Nassau has already started for Luxemburg to assume the Regency of the Duchy.

SOUTH AFRICA.

A Customs union has been concluded between the Cape Government and the Orange Free State.

THE COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE.

Paris, 29th March.

Owing to the report by the Judicial Administrators that they consider the Directors should be held answerable for representing the affairs of the Comptoir to be prosperous and declaring an increased dividend in January, when the position was unsatisfactory, the Government has ordered a Judicial Enquiry.—*Straits Times*.

BRITISH INDIANS AT ZANZIBAR.

London, 19th March.

In the House of Commons last night, Sir James Fergusson, replying to a question, said that he regretted deeply the losses sustained by the British Indians along the Zanzibar coast during the late disturbances there, and added that they were not entitled to demand compensation from Germany.

THE PRICE OF COPPER.

The price of copper has dropped to thirty-five.

THE ITALIAN BUDGET.

Rome, 18th March.

In the Chamber of Deputies to-day, M. Crispi said the Government had resolved to restore the equilibrium of the budget by reforms which would entail large economies.—*Rangoon Times*.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

1889.

		Fabr. Thermometer.		Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
April	5	46°	50°	0.66
"	6	46°	60°	.....
"	7	43°	54°	.....
"	8	42°	48°	0.67
"	9	43°	59°	.....
"	10	49°	57°	0.08
"	11	51°	57°	0.02

1888.

		Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
		Min.	Max.	
April	5	50°	58°	0.13
"	6	45°	65°	0.05
"	7	51°	67°	.....
"	8	49°	66°	.....
"	9	52°	57°	.....
"	10	50°	62°	0.17
"	11	46°	67°	.....

A telegram was received here on Wednesday from Canton announcing the opening of the Tea-market there at Tls. 4 under last year's rates, the quality of the tea this year being better than last. The teamen are reported to be losing heavily.

There was a heavy fall of snow last week along the coast of the gulf of Pechili, and the hills near Chefoo were covered with snow on the 4th instant.

There will be general regret at the announcement that Major Morrison has been obliged by pressure of work to send in his resignation of the post of Commandant of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, and that it has been accepted.

Mr. J. W. Carrall of the Customs' service, who has been waiting here for orders, has been appointed to Amoy.

The *Shên Pao* announces that the Marquis Tseng has been appointed to the control of the Tung Wen Kwan, or College of Peking, a post for which, it says, he is peculiarly well qualified by his intimate acquaintance with foreign languages, manners and customs.

The only one of the Korean foreign Ambassadors who reached his destination, Pak Chung Yang, "Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary for Corea" to the United States, was in Kobe last week, waiting for a steamer to take him back to Seoul. "At all events," says our *Hiogo* contemporary, "he has been better off than his fellow-envoys, for he managed to see a good deal of the world, and they did not."

The *Chinese Times* says:—The three hydraulic engineers of the Dutch Syndicate have left for the regions of the Yellow River. One would have thought, as the three gentlemen have excellent professional antecedents, and in Japan a member of the party has done most effective work, that a warm welcome would have been accorded to them. But such has not been the case, and the Yamèn was rather indifferent. The gentlemen, moreover, travel at their own costs and have no promise even of favour. It appears Wu Ta-chêng has engaged a surveyor and a photographer in Shanghai through the Arsenal there, and will get some kind of report at a cheap rate sufficient perhaps to cover his term of office. The real fact that a survey to be of any use would occupy at least three years, would require one central office, and several district offices, at least 100 skilled engineers versed in hydraulic work, many steam launches, many stations and instruments, and a large number of coolies, horses, carts, and a telegraph, in all an expenditure of some few millions of taels, is beyond the practical grasp of the Chinese mind, which would moreover consider such requisitions as wrapping up a swindle. To reclaim the Yellow River is a work of some years, requiring the very highest engineering skill, and involves an outlay of some hundreds of millions of taels, as the work will not be complete until a navigable sea inlet and outlet are made.

Among the passengers left here by the *Ganges* for home on Saturday morning, is Mr. Fowler, the oldest member of the Shanghai Police Force. He came out here twenty-five years ago to join the force, and is now retiring. Another well-known member of the force is going home, and one whose name has frequently been before the public. We refer to Mr. Jones, the detective, who has been five years in the service and now goes home on well-earned leave.

The Committee of the North-China Famine Relief Fund have sent further remittances of Tls. 5,000 to Moukden for seed grain; Tls. 5,000 to Newchwang for seed grain; Tls. 5,000 to Newchwang for relief, and Tls. 10,000 to Shantung for relief.

Mr. H. M. Hillier begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following subscriptions to the North China Famine Relief Fund:—

Tls.	\$
Amount of subscriptions already advertised	220,285.54 13,550.90
Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.	100.
P. Maclean, Esq.	25.
Received from French Consul-General being balance of receipts of the Charity Ball	276.39
	220,410.54 13,827.29

Mr. Muirhead begs to acknowledge with thanks the following sums for the famine relief fund:—

Thank offering	Tls. 40
Native Christians and others at Shaohing	\$ 15
Offertory, St. John's College and St. Mary's Hall	30
From Soochow Missionaries and native Christians	83.10

Mr. Muirhead adds that he is sending Tls. 1,500 to-day to Dr. Nevius for relief purposes.

A notable and much-respected relic of the past has disappeared with the death of Her Royal Highness Augusta Wilhelmina Louise, Duchess of Cambridge. She was born on the 25th of July, 1797, and was daughter of Frederick, Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel. She was married by proxy on the 7th of May, and personally on the 1st of June, 1818, to Adolphus Frederick, Duke of Cambridge, son of King George III. Her late husband was born on the 14th of February, 1774, and died on the 8th of July, 1850. She leaves one son, the present Duke of Cambridge, born on the 26th of March, 1819, and two daughters, Augusta Caroline, born on the 19th of July, 1822,

Grand-Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and Mary Adelaide, born on the 27th of November, 1833, Duchess of Teck.

King Johannes of Abyssinia, whose death in battle is reported to-day, was, at the time of the expedition against the Emperor Theodore, Prince Kassai of Tigré. He assisted Lord Napier energetically in that expedition and was presented with some guns and munitions, with the aid of which, having declared his independence, he overthrew Wagsham Gobaze, and seized the throne, in 1872.

The following telegram to the Governor-General of French Indo-China was published in the local papers on the 23rd ult.:—

"It is learnt by declarations made to the Chamber of Deputies by the Minister of Finance that the danger of the Comptoir d'Escompte's suspending payment appears to have been averted (*conjuré*). A new association is in course of formation."

There is a general opinion that trouble is likely to arise in Europe on the death of the King of the Netherlands, which is now daily expected. Germany, it is said, wants Holland; the Rhine, they say, deposited Holland, and it therefore belongs naturally to Germany. The Emperor and Bismarck are both anxious for ships, colonies and commerce, which the acquisition of Holland would give them, and by exempting the Dutch from the military conscription, but subjecting them to maritime service, they would acquire the *personnel* of a large fleet. The *Economist* does not believe in the danger threatened. The right of the little daughter of the King of Holland to the throne is absolutely undoubted, the Dutch do not want to be absorbed, and Germany would have to undertake a war of conquest, in which she would be opposed by France, England and Russia. Nor are the German Emperor and Chancellor unscrupulous enough to attack Holland, when they have no legal claim to the country.

We hear that some of the vessels of the Central China Squadron are to proceed North to join the Peiyang squadron in certain manoeuvres.

We would direct the attention of intending passengers by the C. M. S. N. Co.'s steamers to the following notice which has been recently issued to the Commanders of the Company's steamers:—From this date (1st April) no *compradore* order or bank cheque is to be accepted in payment on board of passage money. Any infringement of this rule will cause you to be held responsible for the amount. Before a person is allowed to remain on board as a passenger, you are requested to see that he is provided with a proper passage ticket, or that he pays passage money to you in cash.

It is rumoured that it is in contemplation to convert the Shanghai Horse Bazaar into a limited Company.

The popularity of the German mail advances rapidly, and we hear that the *Preussen* was engaged full from Shanghai and the other ports of call. It is not impossible that before long the German mail will be made a fortnightly one.

The first four prizes in the Manila Lottery drawn yesterday have fallen to these numbers:—39,695; 2,204; 24,741; and 26,509.

The *Bulletin* of the Sicawei observatory for July last, for which we have to thank Père Chevalier, S.J., is a very interesting one, Père Chevalier having devoted more space than usual to his review of the month, in which five notable depressions occurred, including the typhoon of the 14th and 15th, which traversed the north of the China Sea from the south-east to the north-west, passing to the south of the Formosa channel, and striking the land between Breaker Point and Hongkong. There are also some very interesting notes of observations made at Nanking in June and July last by Père Colombel, the founder of the Sicawei observatory, and the usual valuable tables and charts.

At the Mixed Court on Monday morning, the case of Wong A-sai who was charged with setting fire to his premises in Nanking Road on the 15th of last month was proceeded with. At the opening of the case, Mr. Drummond referred to the remark made by the magistrate at the previous hearing to the effect that the Insurance Company was to blame for allowing the prisoner to insure for more than the value of the property. Mr. Drummond desired to be allowed to explain that it was not the business of insurance companies to value property proposed for insurance, although they might take reasonable precautions to assure themselves of the existence of the property, and pointed out that the burden of proof rested entirely upon the insured, who were required by the conditions of the policy to furnish evidence of loss after the occurrence of a fire. Mr. Carles asked if this point was made clear to the Chinese when effecting an insurance. Mr. Drummond replied that a Chinese translation of the policy conditions accompanied every policy issued by the company to natives. Mr. Carles said this was very satisfactory, and asked that a copy of the Chinese translation should be sent to the magistrate for his inspection, which Mr. Ballard promised should be done. The magistrate said there were strong suspicions that the premises had been fired, but these suspicions were not sufficient to warrant his convicting the prisoner. Mr. Drummond said he would be satisfied with the decision of the Court. Mr. Carles stated that there was a good deal of property on the shelves after the fire, and the inference was that if the man had set fire to the place, he would have removed this property. Inspector Reed in answer to Mr. Carles informed the Court that no one had seen any of the effects removed before the fire, though people had said such was the case, but there was no positive proof of this. Mr. Carles also referred to the position of the kitchen chimney as the prisoner had stated the fire originated with it. The magistrate decided that the debris was to be removed, and if this furnished no further evidence, the prisoner would be released.

A very large tiger has been shot close by Amoy within the past few days. It appears that Mr. Leyburn and Mr. Harding of that port, who have been most enthusiastic in their endeavours for months past to bag a tiger, followed this one into a cave, when he turned round and faced them, whereupon they both fired and killed him at a distance of 20 yards.

We understand that the establishment of the new Perak Tin Mining Company which was being formed in Hongkong to take over the Shanghai Perak Tin Company has been abandoned "for the present."

The reproduction of an Annamite village at the Paris Exhibition is to include a village temple, which has been prepared at Hanoi. It is entirely constructed of the finest varieties of native timber, magnificently carved, and some priests are being sent with it, in new clothes (which will give them a terrible air of unreality), and with all the accessories of the Buddhist ritual: and this, says the *Courrier d'Haiphong*, will be the first time that Buddhist priests have officiated in Paris in a real temple. It might be possible to question the taste of this exhibit.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* records, says the *Daily Press*, the submission of various rebel bands in the provinces of Haiduong and Bacninh. The most important of the bands was one commanded by a chief named Van, and which numbered 273 men. They gave up 113 rifles, of which 100 were breech-loaders, 16 revolvers, 5 flags, and a number of lances and swords, and various insignia. The submission took place at Khi-ne, a Catholic village in Bacninh where the Spanish missionaries are established. Negotiations had been in progress for four

or five days, during which there had been a suspension of hostilities. On the 13th March the chief notified that he would make his official submission the next day. On the 14th, about nine o'clock in the morning, the French column was marching on the plain, when the rebels were seen, Van at their head armed with two revolvers and a sword, and his men some distance behind with reversed arms. The chief advanced with his escort and his flags, and having given up his arms, made his submission by prostrating himself three times before the Mandarin in charge of the district, who was with the troops. His men then defiled and went through the same ceremony. The chief and his band then appear to have been taken to Hanoi, where they were treated with so much honour by the Resident-Superior that both the *Avenir* and the *Courrier d'Haiphong* protest against it as a public scandal.

The *Daily Press* has a leading article regretting that the Manager of the Upper Yangtse S.N.C., Ltd., has sold the *Kuling* to the Chinese, a sale which it regards as no doubt well advised from a business point of view, though, as it says, "from a public point of view the result cannot fail to be regarded with great regret." Our contemporary's regrets are, however, premature, as the latest news we have is that the negotiations for the sale of the steamer have fallen through, and it is still the intention of her owners to carry out the voyage to Chungking, as soon as Sir John Wigham procures the indispensable permit.

Lieutenant-General Cameron, C.B., with Mrs. and the Misses Cameron, left Hongkong by the *City of Rio de Janeiro*, on their way to England; on the 31st ult. A complimentary address was presented to the General on board the steamer just before sailing, Mr. Ryrie being, as usual, the spokesman.

The *China Mail* says:—We hear that Mr. Shelton Hooper, Assessor and Valuator, has been appointed secretary of the new Land Investment Company. The Government will lose a very valuable officer.

In his annual report on Education to the Hongkong Government Dr. Eitel says:—The total number of Educational Institutions of all descriptions, known to have been at work in the Colony of Hongkong during the year 1888, amounts to 206 schools with a grand total of 8,717 scholars. More than three-fourths of the whole number of scholars, that is to say 6,728 scholars, attended schools (99 in number), which are subject to Government supervision and either established or aided by the Government in some form or other. The remainder, viz., 107 schools with 1,989 scholars, are private institutions entirely independent of Government supervision and receiving no aid from public funds, unless it be that they are exempt from payment of rates and taxes.

The German steamer *China* left Hongkong recently with 272 coolies for Deli. As the steamer neared Singapore, the coolies on board insisted that they had been misled, that they never meant to go to Deli, and were under the impression that they had shipped for Singapore. Their conduct was so threatening that the captain put into Singapore, where the Governor was communicated with, and the coolies were given their liberty. It is thought in Hongkong that the trouble was got up by the coolie brokers in Singapore, who are disgusted at the Deli planters going to Hongkong direct for their coolies.

The *Daily Press* says that:—Telegraphic news has been received at Manila, we learn from the *Comercio*, of the loss in the Red Sea of the British steamer *Clyde*, which sailed from the port on 14th February with a cargo of 16,886 piculs of hemp and 200 cases cigars. There were no passengers from Manila. She was despatched by Messrs. Ker & Co.—We learn that the steamer in question was the *Klyde*, a vessel belonging to the Klyde S.S. Co., of Glasgow. She was

of 1,022 tons net register and 150 horsepower, and was built at Newcastle in 1882.

We take this from the *Japan Gazette*:—Thousands of people, the *Jiji Shimpō* says, are starving to death at Cholla-tao, Corea, in consequence of the famine which is prevailing. This sad state of affairs awakened the sympathy of the foreign residents of Seoul and at a meeting which was held \$800 were readily subscribed. Two Committees were also appointed to visit the scene of the distress and distribute the relief. The Korean Government, however, refused to issue passports for the foreigners to journey inland and stated that there were sufficient Korean cereals to feed the Korean people. It is hard to believe that the latter part of this statement is true, because a very large quantity of Japanese rice is being still shipped to Corea. Although there may be plenty of Japanese rice in Corea one result of the failure of the crops must have been to impoverish a certain class who cannot now possess the money wherewith to buy the prime necessities of life. If the Korean Government will neither relieve these nor let foreigners do so, it is clear that they must starve. It is equally certain that foreigners would not subscribe if there did not exist necessity for their aid. Those who did subscribe reside in the country and it may be concluded that they know the condition of its people. Therefore, it is difficult to comprehend what prompted the strange action of the Korean Government in prohibiting foreign succour to starving natives.

We learn from the *Japan Mail* that the naval manoeuvres which are to take place in Japan this month are to be on a scale of unprecedented magnitude. It reads in the *Jiji Shimpō* that the squadron representing the enemy is to assemble at Oshima, and direct its attack against the forts of Kannonzaki, Futsu, and Sarujima, taking them by surprise, if possible. It will then endeavour to destroy the Yokosuka Docks, and subsequently proceed to Shinagawa, where a landing will be attempted. On the other side, full precautions will be taken for the defence of the threatened forts, torpedoes being laid and other means of repelling an attack elaborated. At Yokosuka a number of men-of-war will be stationed to guard the harbour, while the blue-jackets in barracks at the Dockyard and at Uraga will be prepared to oppose a landing. Vessels not disabled by the fire from the forts or by submarine contrivances, will ultimately land detachments at weakly defended places, and a sham fight on shore will take place.

The Hon. P. Le Poer Trench, late British *Chargé d'Affaires* at Tokio, left Yokohama for home by the *Oceanic* on the 1st instant. On the 27th March he was entertained at a farewell banquet at the Rokumeikan, Tokio, one hundred and twenty guests, Japanese and foreigners, being present, and on the 29th he was the guest of the British residents of Yokohama at a farewell ball. He would have completed seven years of service in Tokio had he remained until the 28th of May.

Visitors to Japan will be interested in knowing that Dr. W. N. Whitney, Interpreter of the U.S. Legation at Tokio, has just published a "Concise Dictionary of the principal Roads, Chief Towns and Villages of Japan." The *Mail* says that it is very complete, well and clearly printed, neatly bound, and of convenient size. It contains various lists, including one of railways, certain tables of weights and measures with their western equivalents, and a capital outline map of Japan, and will apparently be indispensable to every foreign resident or traveller in the country.

We learn from the *Hyogo News* that telegraphic information has been received at that port of a great fire in Chicago, in which 20,000 packages of Japan tea and 10,000 packages of China tea were consumed. The *News* adds:—"If this had happened shortly after the opening of the

tea season it would have caused more excitement in the local market than is possible at present."

The Japanese seem to have turned again to England for their railway material. We notice in the papers announcements of the arrival of several parcels of plant and rails, and at the general meeting of the Sanyo Railway Company on the 21st ult., it was decided to order from England, besides rails, 15,000 casks of cement, 10 locomotives, and 7 first-class, 13 second-class, and 66 third-class carriages.

The *Java Bode* learns that there is some chance of a Chinese lawyer practising in the Courts at Batavia. This practitioner is the son of a Chinese headman at Banda, who went to Holland for study until he was admitted to the bar. He intends to come out and practice somewhere in Netherlands India. Not content with the success already achieved, he has applied also to be naturalised as a Netherlander, though that qualification is not required of a lawyer. The Java Government has reported against the application, on the ground that if granted, other Chinese would also apply, to the inconvenience of the Government, which has steadily discountenanced the naturalisation of that section of the population.

An action was brought by Mr. A. Holt in Singapore against the steamer *Hassia* to recover £2,500, which the captain of the latter had agreed to pay the *Dardanus* for 400 miles' towage into Penang after the *Hassia* had broken down. The captain, when he made the agreement, said the amount was too large, and on arrival tendered £1,000; and it appeared that the *Dardanus* offered to tow the *Hassia* from Penang to Singapore, a similar distance, for \$2,000. The Judge, Sir T. T. Ford, reduced the sum to be paid to £1,500, and gave no costs on either side.

The *Siam Mercantile Gazette* says:—"There is a rumour that the Siamese Government intend setting two fast and powerful steamers to run between this port and Singapore, for the conveyance of mails and passengers, and to be in connection with the English and French mails from Europe. This would perhaps be a boon to the general public, but it is doubtful policy on the part of any Government to engage in private business. The route in question also is already fully occupied by private steamers, and it would be unjust to the owners of these, and injurious to trade, if the Government were to compete with them."

In the report of the Bank of France for 1888, condensed in the *Economist*, there are several very interesting facts. The total turnover of the year, on which a profit was made, was 12,005 millions of francs, equal to 480 millions sterling, besides which over 41,000 millions business were done gratuitously. The cash on 31st December consisted of 1,006 millions of gold and 1,228 millions of silver. It is when we come to the figures of bills discounted, we see what an enormous assistance the Bank of France gives to the petty commerce of the country. The total amount of bills discounted in 1888 was 8,685 millions of francs, and the average value of the bills was Fr.759.90. Of the 5,423,916 bills discounted in Paris, nearly two millions were for sums not exceeding 100 francs (£4), and 17,842 were for 10 francs (8s.) and under. During the whole year, as in 1887, not a single Paris bill remained unpaid, and a sum of 1,118,346 francs was recovered of bills dishonoured in previous years. The Bank has 94 branches in the provinces, and the total dividend for the year was 142 francs net per share of 1,000 francs. The 182,500 shares in the Bank were held by 26,712 proprietors; 120,393 by persons having the free disposal of their property, and 62,107 in trust for minors, married women, public establishments, etc. The quotation for the shares on the 21st February was francs 3,725.

Miscellaneous Articles.**BOULANGER.**

THE flight of Boulanger evidently does not mean that Boulangism is crushed: "*petit bonhomme vit encore.*" When a Government arrests its enemies on the charge of treason, and the result is that they are fined £4 and costs, it is decidedly not too much to say that it has received a severe check, and perhaps after all there is no backbone behind the unexpected strength of the Tirard ministry, and the next news may be that General Boulanger has re-entered Paris in triumph. The significance of the failure of the attempt to crush the Patriotic League is the greater, because the League is as strongly anti-German as it is pro-Boulangist, and we may see Paris in an uproar before the Exhibition opens.

THE KAIPING COLLIERY.

THE transformation of parts of Northern China into a country like the coal producing districts of England commenced on the day when the Kaiping Colliery began to work. The change must proceed, if slowly, still with a steady and certain progress, and the result must be much the same in England and in China. The development of the North-China Collieries will lead to great activity in trade. The collieries will increase in numbers and in their out-put of coal. When the second great colliery has been fairly set at work, as will be the case in a short time, a third will naturally follow and then a fourth. So the great series will proceed. The arithmetical progression of increase in trade will become geometrical, and the advance will not be checked by limitation in the size of the coal fields or in the number of obtainable labourers. Such a check is not conceivable at present on account of the enormous extent of the vegetable deposits which long ages ago were pressed by superincumbent weight into mineral coal, and further because there is in North-China an endless supply of labourers whose habits and capacity adapt them for the English forms of industry.

On the hill where the Kaiping Colliery has been dug is a large quarry, in one part of which are seen a few square feet of black clay. This is an indication of coal beneath, it being the cropping out of a seam. Beneath it is slack coal. Underneath this again is common coal and still lower down is good coal. It may be understood from this arrangement of soft substances above and hard below, that in the extensive horizontal coal field to which Kaiping belongs, the vertical pressure of the overlying deposits increasing with the depth, is the chief reason of the difference between black clay, slack coal and good bituminous coal. In this part of the Peking plain the problem of the coal strata is very much simplified by the fact of their horizontal deposition, and wherever the

black clay is found coal is not likely to be far off. Native proprietors of land over many hundred square miles in the Chihli plain, and in the adjacent mountains, will some day become aware of the hidden riches lying under their own soil, and may become the envied of their neighbours for their riches possible or actual. In every such case it will not only be the landlord that will reap advantage. All the neighbouring villages will share in the plenty which the discovery of coal will produce. At the Kaiping colliery eighty lbs. of common coal are sold for 130 cash. That is to say 800 lbs. are sold for a tael of silver, an enormous boon to the surrounding country. The sale increases rapidly; the villages are very numerous in all fertile tracts of the plain, and it is in the fertile tracts that coal is likely to be found, because the clays, the asbestos, and the useful earths which abound near coal seams have already given origin to industries which have attracted population. It will be found therefore that populous tracts of country will become more populous in proportion as mineral riches are developed, and old industries already existing in such neighbourhoods will be greatly expanded. For instance, Kaiping had at or near it before the first colliery was opened, industries connected with coal, asbestos and earthenware clays. It was Dr. Williamson who in 1868 drew attention for the first time to the working of coal at Kaiping, and when at last it was resolved to open a large colliery on English principles the presence in the Tientsin market of Kaiping coal brought by canal to that city from Kaiping had also a share in leading to the selection of this locality as the starting point for the introduction into North-China of the British colliery system. The output at present in 800 or 900 tons a day. There are three thousand workers who are divided into three shifts of eight hours each. To superintend them there are seven Sheffield colliers, who report that the working is exceptionally safe and free from dangers of explosion. The accidents which occur are not from explosion but from the falling on the workers of loose coal from the roof. This is inevitable and the reckless fearlessness of the workers is remarkable and most regrettable. There appears to be an ample provision of safety lamps. Perhaps the absence of fire damp may be explained by the absence of hollow spaces caused by the very regular, horizontal deposition of the coal upon its limestone bed. The Chinese in the north are not conscious of the vast change of which the Kaiping colliery is the herald. Few go to see the works or show much interest in the remarkable ingenuity to be witnessed in the machine workshops near the pit's mouth. But the accounts shew a yearly improvement in the receipts. The workers are earning from three and a half to twelve dollars a month, and the 200 mechanics from Canton from five to sixty dollars

a month, and they perform all the processes common in iron foundries at home. When the Lin-hsi colliery is in full work this will be doubled. The gradual increase in the distribution of money among the people will enhance their comfort, and they are now getting coal to burn in the long winter at a far cheaper rate than their forefathers ever knew. This great industry is growing not slowly and the people of the Northern provinces will gradually be compelled to admit that as a consequence of the new colliery system, no small addition is being made to their wealth and domestic happiness. Of course a demand has to be created for the coal and other productions of Kaiping. Though the coal is excellent for use on steamers a large demand can only be originated gradually. So with the jars and other industrial products of the same region. Asbestos is becoming much more used than ever before. It is invaluable for employment in rendering buildings fire-proof; worked up in paint it is now found to be very effective in stopping fires. A coat of asbestos paint acts like a charm to check a conflagration. But asbestos is abundant in Canada, and from the St. Lawrence it finds its way to England at too cheap a rate to allow the slightest hope that Chinese asbestos can become a profitable export from China to Europe. The asbestos of North-China may however gradually be exported to Japan where fires are constantly occurring, and to other Asiatic countries where cheap earthenware stoves are in demand. A large demand for this and other productions of the Kaiping region can only be expected to arrive by slow degrees.

WU KUANG-PEI ON CHINESE EXCLUSION.

WE print in another column a long and able paper by a Chinaman, Mr. Wu Kuang-p'ei, formerly a member of the Chinese embassy to the United States, Spain and Peru, on the Chinese Exclusion Act now in force in the United States. It is a common belief among foreigners that the Chinese people—with the exception, perhaps, of those whom the Act specially affects—and the officials really care nothing at all whether Chinese immigration into the United States is allowed, or not; but this paper shews that there are some Chinese at least who do resent the stigma cast on, and the injury done to their nation, and on this ground, as well as in consideration of the intrinsic merits of the paper, it is worth a careful perusal. The writer, having been a member of the Chinese embassy to the United States at the time when the Exclusion Act was under discussion, had special reasons for studying the question. Whether his arguments and conclusions are entirely his own may perhaps be doubted; it is enough to see that he adopts them as his own, and has brought them before the Chinese public in the columns of the *Hu*

Pao, and they have no doubt been before this brought to the cognisance of the Tsung-li Yamén. From the fact that Colonel Denby, the United States Minister, was included in the compliment lately paid to the foreign Ministers at Peking it might possibly be argued that the Chinese government was not so sensitive on the subject of the Chinese Exclusion Act as its late employé, Mr. Wu; but we do not apprehend that anything is to be seriously argued from the honours paid to the diplomatic body on the occasion of the recent marriage. We may therefore set the speculation aside and proceed to the consideration of Mr. Wu's paper.

His history of the movement, first for restriction and then for total exclusion, is not absolutely accurate, but is near enough to the truth for practical purposes. He attributes the first opposition to his countrymen to the Irish who, he says, "are natives of one of the British isles," and "are by nature violent and idle, and generally very poor." As we know, the movement did begin with Denis Kearney and the other sandlot agitators in San Francisco, and was impelled by their desire to do away with Chinese competition in the labour market. Mr. Wu is not quite accurate, however, in attributing the opposition to the Chinese to the Southern party, and in asserting that the Northern party—these appearing to be his modes of describing the Democrats and Republicans respectively—are in favour of it, because it is chiefly Northern employers who make use of Chinese labour. The paper was evidently written or inspired before Mr. Blaine's capture of the Irish vote had given the election to General Harrison. However, Mr. Wu's historical review is not of so much importance as the methods he suggests for employment to enable China to recover the ground she has lost, and the strong encouragements which he considers to exist. The first is true enough, that a convention has no force until both parties have ratified it, but, as we know, the want of China's ratification has not prevented the States from putting exclusion in force, and the practical answer to China is, "If you don't like it, what are you going to do about it?" The second encouragement was the probable election of a Republican President—which has had no effect so far—and the want of unanimity on the subject in the Cabinet, which would cause delay in enforcing the Act. Mr. Wu not realising apparently that individual members of the Cabinet, or even the whole Cabinet, have no power "to alter a decree established." The active measures that Mr. Wu proposes have more pertinence than his encouragements. The United States having made an arrangement unfavourable to China, without waiting to ask her assent, the most favoured nation clause in the American treaty with China should be abrogated by China in a similarly high-handed manner. He does not indeed go so far

as to propose an American Exclusion Act in China; all he suggests is that all the Americans employed in China by Chinese should be dismissed and their places filled by men of other nationalities. "Then they will blame their own government for the loss of their situations, and all the world will say that the reprisal was a just one." By the aid of illustrations, of which the Chinese are so fond, he points out the necessity of taking action at once, and adds that America will not retaliate by force, because she is not an aggressive power; her army and navy are small, and compared with European countries, she "is like a gentle dog compared to tigers." He thus shews that it is perfectly safe for China to shew a firm front, "and remember that not only the dignity of our country is at stake, but the lives of hundreds of thousands of Chinese."

The absurdity of the position is, that Mr. Wu's arguments are unimpeachable. The United States have a treaty with China whereby Chinese labourers once in the United States, "shall be allowed to go and come of their own free will and accord, and shall be accorded all the rights, privileges, immunities and exemptions which are accorded to the citizens and subjects of the most favoured nations." That clause was agreed upon by the U.S. Commissioners in 1880, and has been abrogated in the hope of securing the Californian vote, and it would seem that China has a right to make reprisals, even though she would gain nothing by making them; for no one imagines that the dismissal of the handful—for it is only a handful, comparatively—of the Americans in Chinese employ in the Empire would influence Congress to repel the Exclusion Act. It is unfortunate that Australia has followed the example of California, but in extenuation we can point to several colonies where Chinese labour is welcomed, instead of being repelled. The Chinese question, however, is too serious to be settled even by an able paper like this; the home government dares not coerce the Australian colonies, if they persist in their opposition, any more than Congress dares to coerce California; and the probable irruption of Chinese is exercising the minds of the Japanese government when it ponders throwing open the country. Wu Kuang-p'ei's arguments are as sound as possible, but the countries that object to Chinese immigration, even if convinced by argument, "are of the same opinion still," and the best way would seem to be to appeal to the pride of the Chinese government, and so decide it not to allow its subjects to go where they are not wanted; though there are some reasons for believing that Chinese labour will actually be invited to California again before long.

FAMINE RELIEF REPORTS.

Dr. Nevius' last letter from Chefoo on the Famine Relief Work contained the following postscript: "Will you kindly

send this letter to the *Daily News* to be printed, as soon as may be? We are largely dependent on these published communications for miscellaneous contributions which are continually coming to us from various sources." If we needed to make any apology for devoting so much space in our columns this year to the records of the noble work being done by the missionaries, the apology is here ready for us. Indeed we believe there has been some grumbling among our readers at the recurrence of these pathetic papers; they are tired of hearing about the famine; there is nothing new in the accounts; there is altogether too much sameness in them, and this piling-up of the agony is becoming wearisome.

There is a large substratum of truth in these complaints. We do seem to have heard too much about the famine; the accounts are very much alike, and it is wearisome to have unpleasant facts reiterated to us. And yet we conceive that we are merely doing our duty in publishing these accounts as they come to us. But when we consider how these accounts are written; when we picture to ourselves the devoted men and women who have been out all day inspecting the starving villages, harrassed and often moved almost to tears by the sight of misery for which they can only provide the barest if any relief, moving about in cold and physical discomfort, and then coming home to a wretched room in a Chinese house, warmed by a k'ang or an improvised stove, and instead of resting, sitting down to write an account of what they have seen and done, can we fail to be full of admiration for their self-denial? Could any of us refuse them the satisfaction of seeing what they have written under such difficulties communicated to the world? They do not write merely for the pleasure of seeing themselves in print; they feel it first a duty to shew that they are doing the work entrusted to them, and secondly by their accounts fresh contributions are elicited. They might very fairly have insisted on a division of labour. They might have said to the charitable, "You send us money, and we will distribute it, but there our duties end, and you must have faith that we are distributing properly." But they have not only undertaken the stewardship, but send constant and full accounts of how they acquit themselves, and they assist, as far as is in their power, in the collection of the money. Even those who have the least conviction of the value of missionary labour in China must be grateful for the existence of a system which provides ready at hand such capable and willing machinery for the distribution of relief in districts that are suffering as are these parts of Shantung and Manchuria.

There are one or two points in yesterday's communication that deserve remark. We need say nothing about the general pathos of the narratives, for the main pathos lies in the naked truth that informs them, but there is one special touch in Mr. Bruce's letter.

When the elders of a village, to whom was entrusted the duty of drawing up the list of people to be relieved sent in a list that seemed to be too long, it was given back to them for revision. On one occasion by some mistake, the list was returned to some elders a second time. "When the elders received it they burst into tears and said, 'You might as well not come at all as tell us to reduce it again.'" Scenes like this must be hard indeed for the distributors to face, even though they are supported by the consciousness that they are preventing their recurrence. That the ministrations of the missionaries are received with gratitude as well as patience has already been noticed, but from Mr. and Mrs. Whitewright's diary we learn that they have also been very valuable in the prevention of violence and robbery, with which, as usual, if they had occurred, the local officials would have been powerless to deal. It will be interesting to see by-and-by what recognition, if any, the government will make of the services foreigners have rendered them and their people in this time of calamity.

Meanwhile we note again from what Dr. Nevius himself writes, that the starvation arises not from there not being food in the country, but from the people having no money to buy it. "The supply that has entered the famine region, and is to be found in all the country markets, is equal to the demand." Still there is not a word of complaint that the government is neglecting its duty in allowing the people to starve; but this absence of complaint does not come from any doubt as to the duty of the government, but from the conviction that it is hopeless to expect the government to recognise its duty. And the government cannot lay the flattering unction to its soul that foreigners are doing all that is necessary; we were told before that the districts relieved are but oases in the desert of famine; Dr. Nevius tells us again that "at every centre there are large files of pressing applications from villages outside the present limits, which are now in a much worse condition than those which have for weeks or months been receiving aid." The tale of death in those villages will probably never be told, and every death is preventible. Yet the moans of the dying, and the cries of the survivors who have lost their fathers and mothers, their wives and children, will never penetrate into the Forbidden City. In some of these districts future famines will be prevented by the regulation of the Yellow River, and to this task Wu Ta-cheng is bending all his energies, but when he asks for leave to constitute that indispensable part of the machinery, a board of surveyors, and begs that they may be held entitled to the same rewards as those granted to the officers employed in inaugurating the Telegraph Service, the Emperor replies that "as the proposed establishment of a Board of Surveyors and the consideration of the rewards to

be conferred upon them are premature and ostentatious, We command that no notice be taken of the suggestion."

THE PARNELL LETTERS.

OUR London Correspondent said in his letter written just after Pigott had confessed to the forgery of the Parnell letters that the disclosures had created a great revulsion in public feeling. The by-elections that have since taken place prove that the feeling has not been a fleeting one, and it seems likely to make a great and probably an immediate change in political matters. The revulsion in public feeling will transfer from the side of the Government that large class of persons who are independent of party or indifferent to it. And it is with these voters that the balance of political power lies in England. Others will support Mr. Gladstone's policy, because it has been proved that his allies, the Parnellites, have not been connected with the "crime" which the *Times* charged to them, and which the history of the Nationalist movement and the horrible deeds which seemed part and parcel of the agrarian disturbances in Ireland made only too probable. These persons will now argue that, as Mr. Parnell has been proved innocent of complicity, either actual or sympathetic, with such crimes as the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke, the fullest confidence must be placed in the Irish party. Very few people out of the millions who possess votes in Great Britain trouble themselves to understand passing political events, supposing them to be capable of doing so; they follow some local leader, or are led by an ignorant, but it may be generous impulse, to take some particular view on a political question. These people and the independents or indifferents will desert the Government because they hear from its opponents that it helped the *Times* in what the Gladstonian party calls a foul conspiracy to crush Mr. Parnell and his supporters. The Government may get over the effect of the obloquy which was so freely heaped on it when last mail left, if it can retain office for a year or two, but it seems to us evident that if a general election took place this year the Conservatives and Unionists would be defeated by large majorities, and very likely the latter would all but disappear. It does not seem to us that either of these parties identified themselves with the *Times* as against Mr. Parnell, but they are charged with having done so and that is sufficient with the class of people we have already referred to. And it is evident also that the recent working of the Crimes Act is telling against the Government.

We should say that not the bitterest opponent of the *Times* expected to see such a revelation of folly as was disclosed in the examination of its legal adviser, Mr. Soames, and its manager, Mr. Macdonald. These gentlemen took everything

for granted, gave large sums of money for letters, which came to them from a suspicious quarter, and when the legal adviser was asked if he made no enquiries about the letters or the persons who were offering them for sale, somewhat indignantly replied that he had done nothing of the kind. We are almost inclined to think that both these gentlemen tried to shield Mr. Walter by assuming to themselves the folly with which he had acted. It is as easy to take this view of their evidence as to believe that men of business gave themselves away so completely, and in such an artless manner, as they testified they had done. But that does not mend the position in which the *Times*, the first newspaper in the world, has been placed by the acts of some one or other of its conductors or managers. For the fact remains that it has been duped when a very small quantity of ordinary caution would have saved it from being taken in. And we take it that every one now sees that the purchase or non-purchase of these letters was a case in which every possible precaution should have been exercised. When the letters were purchased a great number of people were ready to believe almost any atrocity of the Irish Nationalists, but the conductors of the *Times*, or indeed of any English newspaper, should not have been of that number. It was *laches* of the most serious kind, and it has inflicted great injury on the reputation of the paper and the political party it has been supporting. That the injury to the *Times* will be permanent no one will believe who is acquainted with the influence which it wields in large circles of people at home and on the Continent. The paper will soon recover from the effect of some one's folly, unless that some one is allowed to continue to direct the paper. For it was not only the publication of the *fac-simile* of one of Mr. Parnell's letters, but the repeated assertions that the *Times* had in its possession other evidence against him which would prove their case up to the hilt. This has given the enemy occasion to rejoice and they have rejoiced unstintingly. But there will be a reaction from this, at all events among those classes which the *Times* reaches. With all its faults the *Times* has a great record of services to the public such as no other paper in Great Britain can show. The view of its conduct in the case of the Parnell letters which the London *New York Herald* took will prevail with some people and others will feel that though its negligence in this case has been inexcusable, it has been fearless in the same way before and successfully. One of the incidents in the history of the *Times* which raised its reputation to the highest point was in its boldness not unlike its publication of the Parnell letters. Some fifty years or so ago the paper unmasked a gigantic conspiracy to defraud Continental and other bankers by the simultaneous sale in many parts of Europe of forged circular notes of Messrs. Glyn & Co., the bankers.

The conspirators were some of them men of good position and they brought actions against the *Times* which they lost. The gratitude of the merchants of the City of London to the *Times* was shewn by their subscribing a handsome sum to defray the expenses it had incurred and the independence of the paper was displayed by its proprietors founding scholarships with the money.

We do not care to write about the wretched creature whose fraud led some one about the *Times* astray, nor are we in possession of sufficient information about the doings of Mr. Houston in the matter to enable us to judge his conduct. The former seems to have been thoroughly bad, to have forged to get money, to have lied and perjured himself until he had woven about himself a web of contradictions, and statements made apparently for no other object than to extricate himself from some momentary difficulty when under cross-examination. That such a man should have allowed himself to be placed in the witness box is one of the most extraordinary things in this extraordinary Commission. He did not flatter himself that he would pass the ordeal, but seems weakly to have consented to appear. It is not likely, we hope, that there is anything in what Sir Charles Russell said of "a conspiracy behind Pigott and Houston." Such a thing might be possible in Ireland but not with Englishmen. The *Times* has made all the amends in its power, through its counsel, the Attorney General, before the Commission, whose words it adopted in the leading article of the 28th Feb. And it added thereto that, as Mr. Parnell had stated in the witness box that the letters attributed to him were forgeries it fully adopted that statement, expressing at the same time its regret for their publication and extending this regret to the letters falsely attributed to Messrs. Egan, Davitt and O'Kelly.

DR. WELLS WILLIAMS.*

To residents in China, if not to the world in general, we have no hesitation in recommending the biography we have just laid down. Dealing with the events of forty-three years of change, it carries us from the day when Dr. Williams landed in Canton as a missionary printer and was consigned to the care of a hong-merchant as a "foreign-devil," to the hour (on a Sunday morning) when he stood in the presence of the Emperor Tung Chih with the representative of the United States.

1833 to 1876 covers an eventful period in the history not only of Chinese, but also of Japanese relations with foreigners; and it was Dr. Williams' good fortune to see the old isolation and contempt give place in both countries at any rate to toleration on terms it was possible to accept. The glimpses we obtain from his letters of two wars with China, and of the opening up of Japan would alone be sufficient to justify some such permanent record as has been attempted in the present volume. These accounts were written on the spot, and modified by the light of after events, are

of the highest value in forming a true estimate on the questions to which they refer.

Dr. Williams has but so recently gone from among us, and has left so much behind to keep his memory green, that we do not think it necessary to do more than mention him by name. The dates of his birth and death, and the general framework of his life, will be found in the volume under review. The biography is by Dr. Williams' son, and is altogether a most creditable performance. Extracts from letters are of a judicious length, and they are connected by a narrative which serves to heighten the interest and keep the reader's attention fixed. We miss however allusion to what we were told in youth formed the chief value of the biographies of Old Testament heroes,—the weaker side of the man. As a matter of fact, there cannot have been much to tell. Dr. Williams was a deeply religious man, and morally speaking rose to a very high standard. His biographer's natural and evident admiration of his many good qualities of heart is well placed, and may be freely concurred in without demur. But when we come to regard Dr. Williams and his achievements from a purely intellectual standpoint, it is possible that opinions may differ. We can understand how he was always accepted in his own family as final arbiter in all things, and how old associations have caused the son somewhat to misunderstand, if not to overrate, the outcome of his father's services to Sinology. We shall therefore take leave to say a few words on Dr. Williams' position as a mere sinologue, leaving the details of his home and inner life to be gathered from the pages wherein they are so faithfully and so lovingly described.

Dr. Williams early came to the front as a distinguished Chinese scholar. But it was in days when Chinese scholarship was infinitely restricted in area, and proportionately wanting in depth. Of late years, he has hardly been considered an authority beyond dispute. "Content," says his biographer (p. 460), "with that degree of excellence which he was able easily and naturally to attain, he passed on to other subjects and fresh labours." In other words, he travelled widely over the field without piercing deeply at any given point.

His "Easy Lessons" served its purpose well at the time of publication,—so well that in the preface to his Dictionary of 1874, Dr. Williams still recommended it to the student of Chinese, forgetting that in 1847 it was already "nearly out of print" (p. 158), and in 1870 "long out of print" (p. 383). That it had been completely superseded by Wade's Course, Dr. Williams did not appear to see.

His "Tonic Dictionary" was also no mean achievement. It has gone the way of all dictionaries, and has yielded to a more elaborate and a more accurate work.

The "Middle Kingdom" held its own for many years as the most comprehensive work on China in the English language that had hitherto appeared. In its second edition, full of errors that had long since been corrected and bristling with inconsistencies that shake the confidence of the reader, the field has been needlessly vacated, left open to the first comer who shall approach the subject from a nearer point than forty and odd years ago. The first edition was undoubtedly a great work. It is Dr. Williams' *Spring and Autumn*,—the work by which men will know him.

What Mr. Williams, Jr. calls "the general demand" that his father "should produce a successor to Morrison's Lexicon" (p. 346) must be considered more as a draft upon filial imagination than as a correspondence of language with fact. The "Syllabic Dictionary" grew almost insensibly out of a projected revision of the then well known Tonic Dictionary. At that time everybody was using Morrison, and all were doubtless glad to hear that something more advanced was on the stocks, under no mat-

ter whose hand and seal. But to state that a *plébiscite*—not would, but actually had—resulted in favour of Dr. Williams is unjust to several scholars who were even at that time far more competent to undertake the task. In point of industry, Dr. Williams left nothing to be desired. In point of accuracy, all. An extensive collector of material, he was, with all due allowances, singularly inaccurate in his results. The *Middle Kingdom* supplies not a few examples, all pointing to the conclusion that he was only too "content with that degree of excellence which he was able easily and naturally to attain." Even in the present work we find such slips as (p. 365) "Dr. Hance, a German at Whampoa, who has more knowledge of Chinese plants than any one else," written too as late as 1867.

The "Syllabic Dictionary," a quarto volume of 1,356 pages, appeared in 1874. Mr. Williams, Jr. declares that its appearance "was regarded among foreign students of Chinese as one of the noteworthy events of the century." He says that "the fullest praise came from those best qualified by their scholarship to pass upon its merits," and that though critics differed on obscure points of Chinese philology, "their verdict was abundantly in favour of the performance." Then follows a page (398) of quotation from one critic who confines himself to instituting an invidious comparison with the earlier work of Morrison.

Now it is obviously impossible to decide off-hand upon the merits of a lexicon which runs to 1,356 pages, while as a matter of fact "those best qualified by their scholarship" at the date of publication said little or nothing in praise of the new venture. The critic to whose page (398) of praise Mr. Williams, Jr. attaches so much importance, was Mr. E. C. Taintor, an amiable dilettante whose opinion carried with it no weight, and whose very existence as a sinologue has long been absolutely forgotten.

The real fact is that no very great period had elapsed after the publication of this Dictionary ere students had already begun to notice whole strings of the most singular mistranslations and mistakes of all kinds. At this late date it would be hardly too much to say that an appreciable number of errors, great and small, might be detected on every page. Some of the mistranslations are of such a character as to make one doubt either one's own senses or Dr. Williams' generally accepted reputation as a Chinese scholar.

In this sense, we consider that Dr. Williams, Jr., has arrogated to his father altogether too much on the ground of his sinological attainments. But this interferes scarcely at all with the interest of the biography; and whether he succeeded or whether he failed, Dr. Williams had evidently laid to heart the noble maxim—"To do good work, whether we live or die." His son's book is not only a well-deserved tribute to that good work, but is eminently readable, full of pleasant and useful information, and almost indispensable to those who wish to have a complete record of foreign relations with China in and since the old factory days.

THE ENGLISH MAIL PAPERS.

The fiasco of the Parnell letters shews at least what an enormous hold the *Times* still had of the British public, and how long it takes to make or lose a great reputation in England. The *Standard*, which has been gradually creeping up to the first place, and the *Daily Telegraph*, had both long passed it in circulation, but the *Times* was still the British organ. The forged letters themselves owed more than half their importance in English eyes to the fact that the *Times* published them and insisted on their authenticity. To all Mr. Parnell's denials, to all the assertions of the separatist journals, to all arguments based on their

* The Life and Letters of Samuel Wells Williams, LL.D.; Missionary, Diplomatist, Sinologue. By his Son, FREDERICK WELLS WILLIAMS. New York, 1889. Shanghai, Kelly and Walsh, Limited.

intrinsic improbability, the answer was that the *Times* said that they were genuine, and would not say so unless it knew that they were. The *Times* itself now allows, though the language in which it allows it is somewhat clumsy, that it was the victim of fraud, but it is curious to find that the English journals generally do not dwell so much on the partial rehabilitation of Mr. Parnell, as on the amazing ineptitude of the managers of the *Times*. The only paper that we have come across that has a good word for the *Times* is the *New York Herald*, and Mr. Russell Young defends it vigorously:—

The *Times*, rich, respected, powerful, with nothing to gain by controversy, and nothing to lose by silence, had simply to go on printing the news, amassing money and paying dividends in a fat, lazy, irresponsible way, caring little whether Mr. Parnell was in Downing Street or the Tower, so long as the money came in. It preferred the controversy. The battle has been severe, the expenditure of money vast, without the hope of gaining a new subscriber or a new advertisement. The disclosures yesterday would indicate that it has lost its case. And the losing would be a gratification to all who would believe that men who direct great political movements are not assassins. But, in frankness and justice let it be said that the *Times* made a stern, lavish, honourable, heroic contest, to be remembered, as it will surely be, to the honour of that journalism, which in a sense of duty to the people, finds no labour a sacrifice.

But this, which is from the London issue of the *New York Herald*, is hardly consistent with what the same paper says in its New York edition:—

As for the *Times*, its audacity of three months since is only equalled by its present humiliation. It has published an apology for the crass stupidity with which it became the willing dupe of a spy and an informer.

For the views that the *Saturday Review* and *Spectator* have taken of the collapse of the leading journal, we must still wait a week. The *Pall Mall*, of course, goes into hysterics, and makes a point of the *Times'* carelessness in continuing to advertise the letters after it had allowed that they were forgeries:—

But now that we know the truth, and the truth has demolished the forgeries on which the *Times* relied, what next? Are we or are we not to see the authors of this foul conspiracy brought to justice? Their motives, no doubt, were excellent. But surely we need not remind the Attorney-General and the *Times* that excellence of motive is no defence against the charge of having broken the law by publishing the cruellest of libels without having taken even the most ordinary precautions against being deceived. As one of our judges laid it down not so long ago:—

"Assuming all that, assuming their motives to be as philanthropic as you can, yet I am bound to tell you that it is no answer whatever to a charge of this kind. Neither the absence of a corrupt motive, nor the presence of a good motive, is any answer to the charge. Is it to be said that the law of the land is to be violated with impunity because the person violating it thinks that some good may ensue? Justice and common sense revolt at such an idea."

It is, therefore, impossible to plead that the patriotism of their motive shields them from all punishment for their crime. But it may be said that the Act constituting the Commission contained an indemnity clause. It did, but on the face of it, there is nothing in this to prevent the prosecution of the editor and the proprietor of the *Times* on a charge of criminal conspiracy. They have not given evidence. But neither does the clause clear Mr. Houston, Mr. Macdonald, and Mr. Soames. They procured and caused to be procured, unwittingly perhaps, false evidence when they put Pigott in the box. They have published the libels after Pigott absconded. They are publishing them to-day. Why, then, should they not be subjected to a prosecution for conspiracy?

The *Drumkopf Zeitung*, as the *World* calls the *St. James's Gazette*,—and this is quite as clever as calling the *Pall Mall* the *Bed Stead*—makes the incident the

text for a superior article on The Business of a Newspaper; and it must add grievously to the humiliation of the *Times* to have all its competitors, who have looked up to it so long, pointing out its mistakes to it in this authoritative way. The *St. James's* says:—

Of course no sensible reader requires his newspaper to be impartial in the rather foolish sense usually given to the word—that is, to have no preferences and no dislikes. A paper either supports a party or, if it chooses to fight for its own hand, must at least act with this or the other set of persons and express opinions from time to time, according as it likes them or dislikes them. But what the public for which the paper works has a right to expect is that the purveyor of news and opinions will not take upon himself to play a part for which he has no qualifications and no real opportunities. It is not the duty of a newspaper to decide that So-or-so is a traitor, and should be punished as one—though if it holds that opinion it may express it. To go beyond mere opinion, to look for evidence, to announce its readiness to receive accusations—these are not within its rights. Evil comes of such errors. When they are committed by silly credulous people, whose feeble imaginations are dominated by beliefs amounting to mania, they may lead, as we saw some years ago, to the actual manufacture of offences. That, however, was a very extreme case. What is more likely to happen is that the paper which has gone beyond its functions will be simply victimised. Where the carrion is, there will the vultures be gathered together; and all those whose employment it is in this world to prey on the credulity of others will swarm around the amateur public prosecutor. However well he may stand upon his guard, however careful he may be, his work will be amateur work; and, what is worse, it will be a mere intrusion on the province of a recognised authority. That this kind of mistake may be made with the best of intentions is undeniable; but what is not less certain is that the journal which makes it is terribly liable to find some day that it has grievously damaged the side it meant to assist.

In another article, headed Not Quite so Fast, the *St. James's* asks why Mr. Parnell did not "crush his accusers," when the incriminating letter first appeared, "by shewing in a court of law the falsity of their charges and the forgery of their documents. He declined to do so. Why he declined—considering the humiliation and discomfort he could have inflicted on his adversaries at once by proving the facsimile letter a fabrication—is a standing mystery which remains as mysterious to-day as it was twelve months ago. However, though pressed again and again to punish his traducers, Mr. Parnell would not; alleging, through his mouthpieces, that no justice was to be obtained for him from an English jury." We know now that Mr. Parnell's denials were not believed, and that it was not until the latter part of last year that Mr. Egan was able to collect the facts which enabled Sir Charles Russell to break down Mr. Pigott. One curious insight into the internal management of the *Times* we get from the fact that the name of the Editor, Mr. Buckle, does not come in at all in the whole matter; and he seems to have had nothing whatever to do with the anti-Parnellite campaign.

The following extract from the *Spectator's* article on The French Crisis—and the *Spectator* is generally well-informed on foreign politics—is curiously illustrated by the Reuter's telegram which we publish this morning. On the 23rd of February the date of the article, the fear of Boulanger was so prevailing that M. Carnot had found it almost impossible to construct a Cabinet:—

Each successive combination broke up under the pressure either of personal dislike or conscious powerlessness—M. Fallières' plea—or reluctance to enter office with M. de Freycinet as Minister of War, a reluctance having its root, we believe, in the suspicion entertained by many grave Opportunists that in an hour of crisis M. de Freycinet, who began as "Gambetta's man" and worked under a dictatorship, might pronounce for

General Boulanger. Still, the President went on calmly shuffling his cards, and at last got a Ministry together with M. Tirard as its respectable figure-head, M. de Freycinet as War Minister, and M. Constans as Minister of the Interior and the vivifying energy. The last is a strong man, a real Jacobin, loathed by every Catholic in France for his method of dissolving the monastic institutions, and supposed to be capable of displaying "extreme energy,"—that is, of firing on a mob first, and asking a Bill of Indemnity afterwards. A Minister of the Interior, even in France, can, however, do little without the President and the Minister of War; and the new Cabinet, apart from M. Constans, has no element of strength. It cannot avoid proposing something—the Budget, for example—and it may be overset at a moment's notice by an adroit combination such as overthrew M. Floquet. Its chance of a majority is, indeed, less than his, for since his fall seventy Republican Deputies, either trembling for their seats or convinced that the existing Constitution will not work, have formally professed themselves adherents of General Boulanger. With that large group, and the Reactionaries, and the men affronted by M. Carnot's neglect of their unrevealed capacities, and the section of the Extremists which votes against Ministers under all circumstances, General Boulanger may, if he pleases, outvote the Government once more; and of course he will please. He can gain nothing by delay, and he must gain by every exposure of the difficulty of inducing this Chamber to support any Government of any kind. He is seeking a dissolution, and if this Cabinet is overthrown, M. Carnot will have no resource left excepting an appeal to the people.

And Mr. Spec goes on to say that there is no chance of General Boulanger being arrested as "it is most unlikely that the President will sanction a *coup d'état* of any kind—and the arrest of a Deputy, inviolable under the Constitution, would be a *coup d'état*," and then we hear this morning that the General is a fugitive at Brussels, the Chamber having agreed to his prosecution for high treason. It is certainly the unexpected which happens in France, and the Tirard ministry has developed a most unexpected strength, when its collapse even before the Exhibition could open was generally looked for. The *Saturday* says:—

The General has it in his favour that he is newer and more showy than the others, and has not yet been proved a windbag by failure in power. What can come out of it all except welter, and at the end the supremacy (temporary supremacy) of some adventurer? The Chamber may cling to house and salary for a brief space, the deputies may enjoy their travelling passes over the Exhibition season, but at the end must come the clean sweep, and then the unknown. It matters very little whether the gentleman who wriggled to the top just at the end as Premier, or even as President, is M. de Freycinet or another.

It is worth noting that Labouchere reminds his readers that immediately the facsimile Parnell letter appeared in the *Times*, he suggested in *Truth* that Pigott had forged it, and on that received the following letter from the forger which "reads curiously by the light of subsequent developments":—

SIR,—You are good enough to say in your paper that a person named Pigott (meaning me) is the party from whom the *Times* "had" the letter attributed to Mr. Parnell, which he has facsimiled. Allow me to assure you that you are quite mistaken—the *Times* had not the letter from me. Furthermore, you say that I have made money by "what I call" revelations. My rejoinder to this, were I a Parnellite member of Parliament, would be more forcible than polite—that "You're an infernal liar!" As it is, I content myself by saying that your statement is a malicious and cowardly libel, for which I would bring you to your knees and make you howl for pardon, as the Dublin Jew money-lender recently did, though in his case your libel could have been apply justified, were it not that circumstances prevent me doing so, as no doubt you are well aware.—Yours faithfully, RICHARD PIGOTT. Paris, 21st April, 1887.

In a second letter to *Truth*, Mr. Pigott apologised for the tone of the former one

but asserted that he knew nothing whatever about the letter, and had never made any money by revelations, because he never had anything to reveal.

"Who killed Piggie?" in the *Pall Mall* is rudely amusing, were it not turned so soon into a tragedy by the actual suicide only three or four days afterwards of the miserable "Piggie;" but the best sketch in the *Pall Mall* is Pigott kneeling to Labouchere at the confessional. The little hunting sketches after "Mr." G. Bowers are good—even the *Saturday* the other day called the well-known authoress "Mr." L. B. Walford—while boating men will see with much surprise the sketch of the rowing tank in which the Harvard crew take their exercise in the winter. The enthusiastic article in the *St. James's* on "A Woman of Genius" will be read here with interest; this is how the writer explains the love of progress attributed to the Empress Dowager:—

Confronted with the pressure of Western diplomacy and the still more embarrassing danger of intruding Western enterprise and invention, she had the genius to see that the only safety lay in the spirit of accommodation. As she could not keep the barbarian out, she determined to take toll of his goods. As she could not keep European Powers aloof, she decided to play one off against another—to make their jealousies the defence of the kingdom. How far she succeeded the position of China to day attests. The French had small reason to congratulate themselves on the results of their collision with the *quantité négligable*. Great Britain has to be timidly polite about chastising the Tibetans, lest things should be made unpleasant for her on the hills beyond Bharno. Russia hastens to repudiate (this time sincerely) the suggestion that she meditates action on the Amoor. It is nothing to the point to say that the Chinese have been beaten by sea and land; that their artillerymen cannot fire Krupp guns with any chance of hitting the mark; and that the crews are the only persons likely to suffer by the evolutions of the ironclads. Still less to the purpose is it to remark that famine ravages, all but unchecked, populous provinces, while borrowed millions are squandered on senseless marriage festivities. The Empress-Regent is a woman of her time, not in advance of it. If the army and navy have not won renown, the enemy has not dictated terms of peace. If peasants die while courtiers lavish in idle rites the funds that might have saved them, the Chinese people love to have it so. Two civilisations have occupied the cares of the wonderful woman who has had to study mankind from behind the lattices of the Imperial Harem; and the perfection of her wisdom is shown in her instinctive perception of the concession due to each.

Outports.

HANGCHOW.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The great city of Hangchow is extremely dry. There are probably seven hundred thousand people here but not a drop of tea can be bought in any of the public tea houses. There is a strike in tea. The tea houses are all closed by common agreement, to resist a tax imposed in the beginning of the year, to raise money for the sufferers by famine. It seems that the imperial government required a certain amount from each province. It was decided by the local authorities to levy a tax on every cup of wine or tea retailed in the shops. The wine vendors obtained remission of their tax.

The keepers of the tea shops submitted to the tax in the first instance because they understood, as they claim, that it was only for a month, but as it is to be continued they have decided to resist it. They had a general meeting and ordered all persons engaged in the business to close their shops on the first day of the third month. Several persons refused to comply with the orders of the guild and their shops were attacked by the mob and they were forced to yield.

But the police arrested some of the mob and several persons were punished. The Chief of police was also assaulted and roughly handled by the mob. He then sought an interview with the Futai but was not received and had to retire at disadvantage and met with further rough treatment. It is reported that the higher officials do not approve of the method of levying the tax and rather sympathise with the dispensers of the "beverage which cheers but not inebriates."

The tax on the smallest shops is ten cash (one cent), on the largest it is seven hundred cash a day. Those who levied the tax advise the shopkeepers to increase the price of each cup of tea and thus impose the tax on all the consumers generally, but they did not approve of this plan so that it comes from them individually. The sufferers are making complaint to the high officials, kneeling and burning incense before them, but there is a deadlock up to the present date. They are waiting for some one to arise in his wisdom and suggest some plan by which a compromise can be reached and each party can retire from the field "without losing face." It is thought that the Criminal Judge will be able to perform this much to be desired service so that the comforting beverage may freely flow again.

4th April.

PEKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In reference to the late banquet at the Tsung-li Yamén difficulties in regard to the acceptance of the presents were made by one or two Ministers. Not, however, to disturb the harmony of the banquet, it was arranged that the presents should be sent to the various Legations on the day after the banquet, and that they should be accepted temporarily for their Governments pending reference home. The Minister of the United States found himself so bound by the Constitution and his special instructions that he had most reluctantly to return them. By virtue of his instructions it should be noted that he gave notice beforehand of his inability to accept them. The Tsung-li Yamén, thus placed in a difficulty with regard to the presents and being unwilling to return them to the Throne, telegraphed to the Chinese Minister to Washington who speedily brought the matter before the Government; orders were at once issued for their acceptance and a Bill will be passed through Congress to enable the United States to accept them. The presents have therefore been returned to the United States Legation to be forwarded to Washington. The Ministers of the Yamén quite understand the reason why certain Ministers are debarred from accepting presents.

Reference was made in Prince Ching's able speech to the *Chung wai shih fu*, four characters above the triportal ornamental *pailow* inside the Tsung-li yamén gate, meaning "May China and the Outside enjoy happiness." We observe it incorrectly romanised in your northern contemporary. It is a mistake besides to say, as it is there said, that Prince Ching was ordered to prepare presents for the foreign Ministers. The banquet was so prepared, but the presents were conferred by the Empress.

We learn that Dr. Edkins, while passing through Tientsin on his way to Shanghai, was favoured with an interview with H.E. the Viceroy, when much conversation took place regarding Christian Missions. To enquiries of the Viceroy, he (Dr. Edkins) informed H.E. that there were 540,000 Roman Catholic converts and 35,000 Protestant. The Viceroy thought the missionaries should confine themselves to moral efforts without teaching religion. We are glad to hear that the Viceroy has undertaken to publish a small work in Chinese on Tree Culture, translated by Dr. Edkins

from the book on this subject published by the Adelaide Forestry Exhibition. It is likely to be of value to the Chinese, as the hills of North China are quite denuded of trees, and wood for building and fuel is very scarce and dear. The advice of the Scotch laird to his son, Be aye planting a tree, while you're sleeping, they're growing, would be sound advice to tender to the Chinese.

In your issue of March 14th there is a paper on Buddhism in Japan by H.E. the Japanese Minister here. It was not a paper read at the Oriental Society as there stated, but a speech, afterwards slightly amplified, delivered by the President on the occasion of Mr. Richard's paper on the Influence of Buddhism in China already noticed in your columns.

Mr. and Mrs. Hillier and family left Peking on the 27th. Mr. Hillier we understand goes to Corea at once and his family will pass the summer at Chefoo. The Misses Townley are leaving for home in a few days. Our Spring races are fixed to come off on the 27th April. Two excellent theatrical representations were given at the British Legation on the 28th when an English farce entitled "A Ticket of Leave" was acted by Messrs. Wilkinson, Howard, Ker, P. Walsham, J. Walsham and Mrs. Jordan. This was followed by a French comedy called "L'Affaire de la Rue de l'Ourcine" the personages being Mr. and Mrs. Vapereau and Messrs. Greville, Vissière and Count Cartagena. After the plays an excellent supper was provided after which dancing was engaged in. A very enjoyable evening indeed was spent. The entire foreign Legation and Customs community with one or two exceptions was present. Her Majesty's Theatre has been recently enlarged and improved and now it is a very handsome room, suitable for Lectures, Balls and such like.

The serious railway accident on the Taku line has naturally produced a sensation. It is feared the occurrence will be used by the opponents of the railway extension to Tungchow to altogether stop the construction of that line, which is at present in abeyance pending the reference to the Viceroy and Governors. At first some thirty were reported as killed—later details bring the total number down to fourteen.

The month of March has been unusually cold, windy and dusty. One or two slight falls of snow occurred and also one or two attempts at rain, but wind, dust and cold have prevailed. With the exception of two or three days, during the entire month the thermometer has invariably been below freezing at night, and for a few nights in succession it fell sufficiently low as almost to threaten the closure once more of the river.

The new Ministers to Washington and London have been appointed. Their names are T'sui Kwoh-yin and Chen Chiu-ming respectively 崔國因; 陳欽明.

1st April.

CANTON.

A correspondent wrote to the *China Mail* the other day from Canton—before the report as to the intended abandonment of the mint,—as follows:—The mint is located outside of the East wall of the city, between the Home for the Blind, on the south, and the Home for Aged Women, on the north. It occupies about 15 acres of ground, and the buildings are all in plain but substantial style. Water is pumped into an elevated reservoir and from this supplies the works. The machinery is from Messrs. Ralph Heaton & Sons, Birmingham. There are 96 machines for stamping cash with a capacity of two million per day. The cash are composed of copper, 6 parts, and spelter, 4 parts. The design at present is to coin cash only, but samples of the proposed silver dollar and

fractions of a dollar are to be seen at the mint. The dollar weighs seven mace and three candareens, 1,000 cash being equal to this dollar. Many reports are in circulation as to the plans of the Viceroy. The bund along the river front is, no doubt, to be made, if too great obstacles do not intervene. We hear of a 'ricsha road to Whampoa, the removal of foreigners to that place, a railroad to Kowloon, etc. The narrow channel of the river in front of the city, the multitude of boats, and the increasing number of small steamers in the service of the Government make the daily coming and going of the Hongkong steamers a great nuisance; and if the steamer landings could be placed at the lower end of the city or at Whampoa, it would be a relief to many of the people whose business is more or less on the water.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

GENERAL FENG TZU-TS'AI'S COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE CLERKS OF THE LI PU.

March 21st.—The Board of Civil Office presents a Memorial replying to the complaints of General Feng Tzu-ts'ai, who alleged that the clerks of the said Board were guilty of extorting gratuities and improperly manipulating the lists of officials recommended for rewards. The Board reports that it has examined into the cases which the General brought forward to prove that distinctions were corruptly made in promotions or honours meted out to different individuals, and it finds that the procedure in each instance was in exact accordance with law. Thus, though extraordinary rewards were approved by the Board of War for the military engaged in the campaigns against the Hakkas and the aborigines in Hainan there is a distinct law in force that civil servants taking part in such expeditions are only eligible for ordinary rewards; and by this rule the Board of Civil Office was obliged to abide in the instance in question. On the other hand, exactly the opposite occurred in the case of the demarcation of the frontier between Kuangtung and Tongking. The first time that recommendations were made for services rendered under such circumstances was only five years ago, the occasion being the delimitation of the frontier of Li. The High Commissioner Chang-shun then requested that the officers engaged might be rewarded according to the more liberal scale. As there was no precedent by which to be guided, and the work accomplished was of great moment, affecting the international relations of the country, the Board therefore made no objection to the proposal. This example was followed in the case of the Kirin frontier and again in that of the Yunnan and Tongking frontier; and so in the present question of the Kuangtung delimitation, the Board merely continued what had become the established practice. The Board of War on the other hand, looking at the matter from a military point of view, held that the services rendered by the officers of the army on such occasions could not be compared with actual fighting in war, and therefore that the rewards for ordinary merit were all that could be granted to them.

There were, further, two civil servants for whom it was asked that they might be given promotion and placed on the Kuangtung list. The rank demanded for each was conceded by the Board, but only one was allowed to be placed on the Kuangtung staff. The reason for this was simple. The officer to whom the favour was refused belonged to the Kuangsi service; and transfer to another province is never given as a form of reward. The other officer was once on the Kuangsi list, but had been

dismissed from the service, and therefore belonged to the staff of no province at all. To appoint him to Kuangtung was merely to retain him in the province to which he was temporarily attached. There was thus no discrepancy in the treatment of the two men.

Feng Tzu-ts'ai had also given the name and address of a clerk belonging to the Board who had written a letter to a certain Prefect using language which amounted to a demand for bribes. On examining the letter, which had been forwarded to them, the Board found that it spoke of "the necessity of spending money in important places." But there was no clerk on the rolls of the Board bearing a name such as that given. The Memorialists, however, sent to the place indicated and arrested three men, one of whom had a similar surname to that mentioned by Feng Tzu-ts'ai. These men have been handed to the Board of Punishments by whom they will be regularly tried, in order that the truth may be elicited.

In a postscript Memorial the Board deals with another petition addressed to the Throne by the General, who asks whether his two sons ought to be allowed to receive the honours conferred upon them for services rendered in 1879, when they were only fifteen and fourteen years of age. The honours were for each of them, an Expectant Sub-prefectship on the list for immediate employment, and a peacock's feather decoration. The Memorialists observe that these rewards were bestowed by His Majesty in consequence of a recommendation made by the Governor of Kuangsi, Chang Shu-sheng, who described the two sons as having followed their father across the frontier and having borne a very distinguished part in the destruction of a great chief. At the time the Board reflected how extremely rare a thing it was, that mere youths should conquer the enemy and effect an important capture. But not having been eyewitnesses of what occurred, the Memorialists could not deny the possibility of the story, much as they thought it improbable. Therefore, as the recommendation had been made by the Governor concerned and approved by the Emperor, they filled up the necessary forms and forwarded them to Kuangsi in 1880 without comment.—Decree issued previously.

APPOINTMENT.

Liu Ju-i, (the present acting incumbent of the post) is appointed Customs Taotai at Tientsin.

BOARD OF CIVIL OFFICE PUNISHED FOR FAVOURING T'U JEN-SHOU.

March 22nd.—In reply to a Decree of the Empress, (published in the *Gazette* of the 4th instant), the Board of Censors proposes penalties to be inflicted on the President and Secretaries of the Board of Civil Office for their action with regard to the case of T'u Jen-shou. The Memorialists find that the offences committed are stigmatised by Her Majesty as favouritism and deceiving the Throne. For the first-mentioned the legal penalty is the deprivation of three grades of rank and removal to another post. For the second it is dismissal. But where two offences in reality form but one act, it is the rule that cognisance shall only be taken of the more serious one, and the other passed over entirely. This rule applies in the present instance. The proper punishment for the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Board is therefore that of dismissal from the public service. The Memorialists were instructed by Her Majesty to find a severer punishment for the Secretaries of the Board actually employed in the case; but dismissal being the heaviest penalty which the Memorialists have power to propose, they can only name that for the secretaries also. They desire also to note that one of the Vice-Presidents was on leave of absence at the time of the presentation of the offending Memorial: but as they have ascertained that his signature is appended

with the others to the draft, this will not make any difference.—Decree issued previously.

APPOINTMENTS.

March 23rd.—Yo-ch'i is gazetted Commissioner of the Office of Transmission; Liao Shou-heng is transferred to the Vice-Presidency of the Board of Ceremonies; Hsi Yung-i is appointed Senior Vice-President of the Board of War, and No Huan becomes Junior Vice-President of the same Board.

APPOINTMENT OF BRIGADIER-GENERAL AT KIUNGCHOW.

Chiang K'uei-t'i, an officer who has held a command for some time past at Port Arthur, tenders his thanks for his appointment as Brigadier-General at Kiungchow, the announcement of which reached him through the Viceroy Li. He has seen over a quarter of a century's active service, and was stationed at Port Arthur during the French troubles when he professes to have spent his nights with his arms under his pillow ready for action at a moment's notice. He has still some arrears of work to clear off at Port Arthur and as soon as they are completed, he proposes to start for Peking where he is to have audience before entering upon the duties of his new post.

REWARDS TO OFFICERS FOR SUPERINTENDING CONSTRUCTION OF IRONCLADS IN ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

Some time ago the Viceroy Li recommended for various distinctions a number of officers who had assisted in bringing to China the four ironclads purchased in England and Germany and he now submits for the bestowal of similar rewards the names of several subordinate officials in the Foochow Arsenal and in the Legations in London and Berlin who were deputed to superintend the construction of the vessels. It being the first time that China had arranged for the acquisition of such powerful armaments, the task entrusted to these officials was one of very great importance and they executed it in a manner which secured them the Viceroy's warm approval. Not only did they note carefully the principles and method of construction but they showed a minute acquaintance with the armour, gear, rigging, etc., and by their general supervision prevented the contractors from making use of bad materials. The Minister in London and the superintendent of the Arsenal had both reported in very favourable terms of the part played by their subordinates in the matter.

AGED CANDIDATES AT THE EXAMINATIONS.

March 24th.—The Governor of Honan reports that at the recent examinations for the second degree one candidate over 90 and thirteen over 80 years of age went through the whole nine days' ordeal and wrote essays which were perfectly accurate in diction and showed no signs of failing years. The prescribed period of 60 years having elapsed since they obtained their first degree, the Memorialist asks that these hoary veterans should receive from the Throne the distinctions accorded by law to those who have paid a lifelong devotion to letters without securing the object of their ambition.

DEATH OF BRIGADIER GENERAL AT CH'AO-CHOW FU.

March 25th.—Teng An-pang, who held office for some years as Brigadier General at Ch'ao-chow Fu, and whose death is now reported by the viceroy, was next to Fang Yao and Cheng Shao-chung the military officer of highest repute in the province. Towards the end of last year he received a telegram from the Viceroy summoning him to Canton, and on his arrival there he was sent on a special mission to Tung-an and Hsin-an. These two districts lie near Hongkong and part of the General's business was to suppress the brigandage which went on there, while he was at the same time to

devote his attention to certain schemes for the reclamation of land along the coast. The sea air and the constant exposure to the weather seem to have had a bad effect upon his health and to have brought on an attack of an old complaint. He died at his private residence in Canton towards the close of the year and the Viceroy laments the loss which the province has sustained in being deprived of the services of one whose long experience had made him so intimately acquainted with its conditions and needs. His successor at Ch'ao-chow. Fu is Wang Hsiao-ch'ü, the present Brigade General at Pakhoi, whose place is to be temporarily filled by T'ao Ting-sheng.

REMITTANCE TO PEKING FROM NATIVE CUSTOMS AT NINGPO.

Last year the assessment which the Native Customs at Ningpo were required to forward to Peking was fixed at Tls. 40,000, one half of which was to be furnished in the first six months of the year and the remainder before its end. The Governor of Ch'kiang now reports that the second instalment of the above amount has been transmitted to Peking, accompanied by Tls. 2,500 representing ginseng money for the Imperial Clan Court.

INSPECTION OF PROVINCIAL FORCES.

The inspection of the provincial forces is distributed over a term of years, those in four provinces being generally assigned to one year. As soon as the New Year's holiday is over, it is the duty of the Board of War to indicate the provinces which have to undergo a military inspection during the current year and to submit a list of the high officers who are eligible to perform the inspection duties. Though the list is generally very comprehensive, embracing all the high officials with the exception of the Princes and other members of the Imperial family, the duty has now become a mere matter of routine and is almost invariably entrusted to the Governors of the provinces concerned. During the present year the armies of Fukien, Ch'kiang, Kuangsi and Kuangtung will be subjected to a formal inspection of this kind.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FROM KIANGSI FOR RELIEF OF SUFFERING CAUSED BY YELLOW RIVER OVERFLOW.

March 26th.—Soon after the breach occurred in the Yellow River, one of the Censors proposed that money should be raised by the sale of office for the repair of the damage and the relief of the suffering caused by the floods. The suggestion obtained the Imperial sanction and the provincial authorities were allowed to revive and carry on for one year the system of raising funds by the sale of official titles which had been previously employed as a means of defraying the cost of defensive operations along the coast. The Governor of Kiangsi now reports that the total amount realised by him under this head during the past year is Tls. 107,216.9, part of which has been applied towards deepening the bed of the Yellow River in Shantung, while the remainder was, by the Board's directions, forwarded to Honan and there used in the repair of the breach at Ch'eng Chou. The success which has attended the scheme has induced the Board to move the Throne to sanction its continuance for another year.

PASSPORTS FOR MONGOL PILGRIMS.

The Assistant Governor of Kobdo reports that he has issued passports to two parties of Mongols, one consisting of six and the other of 30 "black persons" of both sexes to enable them to make a pilgrimage to Wu-t'ai Shan and Hsi-ning. They are to return to their homes immediately their devotional exercises are over, and the Resident at Hsi-ning as well as the authorities en route have been requested to see that their progress is the cause of no disturbance.

BRICK TEA FOR PRESENTS TO MONGOLS.

The same officer mentions that a supply of 2,000 cakes of tea is annually required

to furnish presents to Mongol institutions, lay and clerical, in the neighbourhood of Kobdo. The tea is procured through the Governor of Shansi, and as at present there is scarcely sufficient in stock to meet the requirements of the current year, the Memorialist asks permission to indent upon the Governor for a further supply of 9,000 bricks.

GOVERNMENT ANIMALS AT KOBDO.

By an old regulation the Government farms at Kobdo are to be inspected every autumn and a list of the live stock furnished to the Throne. The Assistant Governor reports that last autumn there were 56 horses and 576 camels at pasture, all of whom had been branded with the official mark.

UNAUTHORISED OPENING OF AN OFFICIAL DESPATCH.

March 27th.—Memorials addressed to the Throne from the Provinces are forwarded in small wooden boxes which are protected on both sides by boards fastened together by strips of bamboo. The Board of War recently received one of these packets from the Governor-General at Foochow, which had been opened on the way, the box taken out, and nothing but the outer boards left. The Governor-General was instructed to make a full enquiry into the loss of the documents and to forward duplicate copies at once. He now reports that he has communicated with the postal authorities, and directed an investigation to be made stage by stage along the whole route. The missing Memorials are three in number, one reporting the remittance of Tls. 60,000 as a contribution towards the Kansu subsidy, a second announcing the transmission of Tls. 6,000 from the four-tenths of the Customs revenue for supplementing the salaries of Peking officials; and a third stating that Tls. 33,000 had been sent from the likin duties on opium towards defraying the expenses of the repairs of the breach in the Yellow River. Duplicate copies of all these documents have now been furnished.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES IN CHINESE TURKESTAN.

Several administrative changes of considerable importance have recently been made in Turkestan. Ili and Tarbagatai have been converted into the I Ta Intendancy, a Prefecture-ship of Ili has been instituted and Magistrates have been appointed at Sui-ting and Ning-yuan. All these offices are to have their proper staffs of subordinates and the Governor now requests that seals should be issued for the new appointments.

AGED CANDIDATES AT THE EXAMINATIONS.

The Governor-General reports that at the Examinations which took place last autumn at Foochow two candidates over 90 and nine over 80 years of age went through the prescribed tests, and sent in Essays of which the composition was good and the handwriting firm and distinct. Aged candidates who have passed through an interval of 60 years from attaining their bachelor's degree and who have attended the three last examinations for the higher degree are, if unsuccessful the fourth time, entitled to an honorary degree, which the Memorialist now requests should be conferred upon the above-mentioned candidates.

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A BOARD OF SURVEYORS FOR THE YELLOW RIVER.

March 28th.—Amongst the ancients, says Wu Ta-ch'eng, the art of map-making never reached the state of perfection which it has attained in modern times. The charts which have been made of the seaboard and of the Yangtze have proved of the utmost service in carrying on the work of river and coast defence, and captains of steamers rely upon their charts as guides in determining their course through the ocean. In making a sketch of a mountain it is necessary to fill in the whole outline, and the ground covered by its base must be

accurately surveyed in order to ascertain its dimensions; so in drawing up a chart of water the shoals and rapids must be marked and the configuration of the bed of the river must be accurately examined in order to ascertain its depth. In the case of the Yellow River a knowledge of the direction and windings of its course, and of its relative breadth at different points is an important element in arranging plans for its conservation. The charts hitherto made of the River have been mostly the work of Yamèn underlings, and have merely given a rough outline without marking the degrees of latitude and longitude or noting the distances. Memorialist has been at great pains to obtain the services of an expert in chart making, but has completely failed to find one. There is no person amongst the officials or literati of Honan who possesses any exact knowledge of mathematics or surveying, and until a taste for these studies is introduced, no improvement can be expected in this respect. Memorialist therefore proposes to establish in K'ai-feng Fu a Board of River Surveyors and with this object in view, he has written to the Viceroy at Tientsin and Canton and the Superintendent of the Foochow Arsenal asking them to select and send him twenty officers and students well acquainted with surveying and map making. In this way he will have a complete survey made in sections, and an accurate chart drawn up and printed, of the whole course of the River from Wei-hsiang where it enters Honan to its mouth at Li-ching in Shantung. This he considers the most important step in his task of re-organising the river works. A mere glance at such a map will shew at once the deflections of the course of the river, the breadth of the banks at different places, the points at which the force of the current is greatest, the sandbanks, the junction of its tributaries with the main stream, the trend of the hills on both sides and the distance from each other of the different towns and villages on its banks, while additional details can be filled in from time to time. As however the members of this new Board cannot be expected to come from a distance and undertake such a difficult task without some encouragement, Memorialist proposes as soon as they have arrived to forward a list of their names for record in the archives of the Board at Peking and requests that they may be held entitled to the same rewards as those granted to officers employed inaugurating the Telegraph Service. The request is supported by the Viceroy Li and the Governors of Honan and Shantung.

Rescript by the Emperor: We sanction the transfer of a number of officials for the work of surveying and chart-making, but as the proposed establishment of a Board of Surveyors and the consideration of the rewards to be conferred upon them is premature and ostentatious, We command that no notice be taken of the suggestion.

EARTHQUAKES IN KANSU.

The Governor-General of the Shen Kan provinces states that an earthquake which lasted only for an instant occurred at Lan-chou Fu on the 2nd November, 1888. The reports which have been received from the different districts nearly all give the same account of the shock. At a place called Lu-t'ang in the Ching-yüan district the walls of the town and nearly all the public offices and private buildings were demolished. Thirty-two people were killed or injured, and 2,400 families were left destitute. The place which sustained the worst injury after the above was Chiang-shui but in this case no details of the loss are published. Agents have been sent to distribute food and money in the afflicted districts.

PROGRESS OF THE NEPAULESE MISSION ON ITS RETURN JOURNEY.

The Governor of Honan reports that the Nepaulese Mission entered his province on its return journey on the 13th December

last and was safely escorted to the Weihaiang district where it was handed over to the care of the Shensi authorities on the 2nd of January.

APPOINTMENT.

Wang Lien-san is gazetted Brigade-General at Ts'ao-chou in Shantung.

RETURN OF GENERAL TS'UI T'ING-KUEI TO HIS POST IN HONAN.

During the operations connected with the repair of the breach at Ching Chou, Brigadier General Tsui T'ing-kuei was entrusted with the superintendence of the excavation of the drainage canal, and his post at Hupeh was taken over for the time by General Li Hsien-ch'eng. Now that the breach has been closed the General has resumed his proper command.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangs Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 2nd April, 1889, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Macgregor (Chairman), M. Adler, Yeend Duer, H. H. Joseph, J. E. Judah, E. H. Lavers, C. Overbeck, E. Wheeley, and the Secretary.

The *Minutes* of the last Meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Dredging of the Soochow Creek.—The following correspondence is submitted and ordered to be published:—

British Consulate General.

Shanghai, 27th March 1889.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, the substance of which I communicated to the Taotai, I have now received his reply in which he informs me that he has instructed the Committee in charge of the Soochow Creek dredging operations to give attention to your request for the removal of the mud now heaped up on the banks of the Creek.

I enclose copy of his letter and also of another in which complaint is made of the alleged precipitate action of the Council in stopping the work in progress without previous communication with the Officials in charge.

I am aware from conversation which I have had with you on this subject that when you heard of the serious inconvenience which would be caused by the action of the police, instructions were given to meet the wishes of the Chinese Officials as far as possible, on the understanding that no unreasonable delay should take place in the removal of the mud from places where it was likely to affect the health of the residents.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

P. J. HUGHES.

H.B.M. Consul General
and Senior Consul.

John Macgregor, Esq.

Chairman Municipal Council,

From Kung Taotai to Consul-General Hughes.

Dated Kuang Su 15th Year, 2nd Moon,
21st Day, (22nd March, 1889).

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 19th March, requesting that orders might be given for the conveyance away of the mud dredged from the Soochow Creek and at present heaped up along the bank, as it is very apt to cause sickness, etc.

I shall be obliged if you will inform the Municipal Council that I have instructed the Committee of Works to give attention to this matter and take the necessary steps.

I have, etc.,

[Card of KUNG, TAOTAI.]

Translated by

(Signed) M. F. A. FRASER.

From Kung Taotai to Consul-General Hughes dated K.S. XV. 2-22 (23rd March 1889). Received, 24th March, 1889.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you that I have received the following report from the Committee in charge of the Soochow Creek works.

"In carrying out the dredging operations which we have been directed to perform in the Soochow Creek, we began with the section of the creek extending from the Garden Bridge to Railroad Bridge, with the object of completing this first because it borders the foreign settlement. The mud dredged up is some of it carried away in boats, and the rest temporarily deposited on the Government land bordering on the creek, to be conveyed away as soon as carried there. The Shanghai Land Investment Co. having lately applied for permission to remove the mud deposited on the bank, using their own hired coolies, and dump it down at San-t'u to be used for filling in and raising purposes, we brought their application before you and were awaiting your decision, when their representative and also a foreigner of the Police Department came to us and urged that the mud might be at once removed.

Replying that we were waiting for an answer to our report to a superior authority, we directed the foreman of the coolies to take advantage of the opportunity of high tides being followed for several successive days by very low water, hired more coolies, and set them to work digging out the mud at the sides and the bottom of the creek, hoping to get the business finished on this tide. Suddenly however, on the 19th March a Chinese policeman and a detective were sent by the Police Department to say that they had orders from the Municipal Council not to allow the carrying and digging of the mud which was going on, and on the 20th they again came to the place where the men were working and took away their foreman. On 21st just as work was beginning it was again interrupted by Chinese police.

These repeated interruptions occasioned great surprise, considering as we do that the dredging, widening and deepening of the Soochow Creek is equally beneficial to Chinese and to foreigners, and remembering that when you were good enough, on our recommendation, to write to the British Consul-General representing the obstruction caused by boats stationed along the Creek, the Municipal Council, with whom the Consul-General communicated on the subject stated that they had issued a Notification which had been translated into Chinese and distributed amongst all the boats in question, ordering them to shift their moorings from section to section as required. The Municipal Council also expressed their desire to give us every assistance in their power to accomplish the work we have in hand. This shews that the Council not only did not desire to obstruct or inconvenience us, but desired to help us to the best of their ability. In what way then is this sudden opposition to be accounted for? For even supposing the mud deposited on the bank really constituted a nuisance, their fitting course would have been as stated in a former letter to instruct Captain-Superintendent McEuen to discuss the matter properly with the Creek Works Committee Deputy, instead of delaying the work by sending policemen on the ground who took the liberty of forcibly removing a foreman in official service.

The ground to the north of the Railroad Bridge is, moreover, as being the old Railroad, taken back by the Chinese authorities, Government land; it forms no part of the foreign Settlement and does not therefore properly come under the management of the Municipal Council. The Council has now opened a large drain there, and heaped up the filthy mud dug from it by the side of the road, which forms a nuisance to people passing that way; but as the opening of drains is for the benefit of the people, the Chinese authorities have not interfered with the work. But when the Chinese authorities are clearing a Chinese Government River and depositing the mud raised from it on the foreshore which is also the property of China, and the Police, acting blindly and without being at the pains to enquire into the circumstances, overstep their functions and impede this work, this is surely most unreasonable and ill-considered action on their part. We should say, indeed, that as the Municipal Council desire to lend us their assistance, they are not likely to do the reverse and interfere with us in this public work and that there must be some mischief-

making agency behind the scenes. From their point of view, a delay of 2 or 3 days may not be considered a very serious matter; but that can only be if they lose sight of the fact that the Soochow Creek being a tidal river, we must watch the tides for an opportunity to work which is a very different matter from working with the system of damming back the water. The dredging having now reached some depth, it was absolutely necessary to hurry up with the operations on the two occasions, 4th and 19th March when a receding high tide had left the water extra low; on each of these occasions there were only 5 days on which work was practicable, and these once past, it became necessary to wait for half a month. The time lost by the interference of the Police was just the 3 days on which it was most necessary to hurry up with the work, the 19th, 20th and 21st March. Over 1,000 coolies who had been engaged, being once driven from their labour, their wages were a clear loss, compensation for which, as well as for the expense entailed by their having to wait for half a month we are rightly entitled to receive from those who caused the obstruction. We (i.e. Deputy Wang Ping-kun and Mixed Court Magistrate Ts'ai Hui-ts'ang) have already stated what is stated above in person to Vice-Consul Carles, and one of us, Mixed Court Magistrate Ts'ai, has written a letter to Consul-General Hughes calling his attention to the subject.

"The work which is to follow, namely that which has to be done west of the Railroad Bridge is of more important dimensions and the coolies, simple people without much knowledge, in great numbers as they are, we apprehend may possibly become excited into creating some disturbance. We submit that you should address an official communication to Mr. Hughes, British Consul-General, requesting him to move the Municipal Council to issue strict orders to the Police Department that in the terms of their former letter, every assistance should be given to us. Should a difference of opinion arise there is no reason why it should not be quietly discussed with the members of this Committee, and any repetition of the unceremonious conduct of which we now complain is highly undesirable as it checks the progress of an important work and gives rise to no end of trouble.

"In submitting this report for your consideration we request the favour of your instructions."

Such is the report of the Committee.

The dredging of the Soochow Creek is a work which will be of great service to foreigners as well as to Chinese; and I am therefore extremely surprised at the action of the Police Department in taking upon themselves to interfere with and impede it. While therefore replying to the Report above cited it is also my duty to communicate it to you, and I have the honour to request that you will give the matter full consideration, and will move the Municipal Council to issue stringent orders to the Police Department in the sense recommended by the Committee. While awaiting your reply,

I have etc.,

[SEAL OF TAOTAI.]

Translated by

M. F. A. FRASER.

Shanghai, 30th March, 1889.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. covering despatches from the Taotai in connection with the disposal of the mud being dredged from the bed of the Soochow Creek.

No instructions were given to the Police to interfere with the digging of mud, and in this respect the officials in charge of the dredging operations seem to have been under a misapprehension. As mentioned to you verbally the Superintendent of Police has been in communication with the officials in charge of the dredging, and it has been arranged between them that the mud shall be removed at once as it is excavated and deposited upon the banks of the Creek, so as to obviate any nuisance arising in future.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. MACGREGOR,

Chairman.

P. J. HUGHES, Esq.,

H.B.M.'s Consul-General
and Senior Consul.

Cr.	Tls.
By Balance from Season 1887-88.....	526.87
„ Subscriptions 55 members at Tls. 15	825.00
„ Entrance Fees 2 Season 1887-88 at	
Tls. 10.....	20 00
„ Entrance Fees 7 Season 1888-89 at	
Tls. 10.....	70.00
„ Rent Account, storage of boats, etc.	15.00
„ Interest from Bank on current a/c.	14.46

Tls. 1,471.33

By Balance brought down.....Tls. 417.12

E. & O. E.

H. W. G. HAYTER,
Hon. Treasurer.

Shanghai, 4th April, 1889.

Audited with Vouchers and found correct,
F. B. REID.

REGATTA ACCOUNT.

Dr.

To Prizes.....	\$569.00
„ Expenses, band, police, refresh-	
ments, &c.....	256.66
	\$825.66

Cr.

By Entrance Fees.....	\$271.00
„ Subscriptions.....	554.66
	825.66

E. & O. E.

H. W. G. HAYTER,
Hon. Treasurer.

Shanghai, 4th April, 1889.

Audited with Vouchers and found Correct,
F. B. REID.

Amusements.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S
CONCERT AT THE LYCEUM.

"A Full House," "Hope the Concert will go well" were the remarks one heard on entering the Theatre on Thursday night, and the Society may congratulate itself on having had one of the fullest houses we have seen since the opening concert of the L. and D.S. The concert itself went in every respect "well," it was a distinct success, and the hearty applause with which the numbers were received showed that the Society has achieved its object, which was to make Shanghai recognise that there is a large amount of pleasure to be got from a programme almost purely orchestral. All thanks and praise are due to our indispensable Chevalier for the patience and endurance which have enabled him to bring the Band to the pitch of excellence to which it has risen, and we hope that when next we have the pleasure of hearing the Society they will have so far further improved that he will not find it necessary to tap on his desk at the commencement of every bar, for this practice must be most annoying to anyone who has the slightest love of music in him and cannot but irritate the performers. We noticed with much pleasure that the Band had mastered one of the greatest difficulties in orchestra playing namely the "attack." It is so seldom that one hears even professionals come in all together with the first beat of the baton that it was quite refreshing to note the smartness with which the different changes of time were taken up, especially in the operatic selection, a form of music which at all times is difficult, and especially to amateurs who are not accustomed as a band to play accompaniments to solos whether instrumental or vocal. The "Gem of the Collection," if the orchestra will forgive us for saying so, was certainly Miss Jansen's violin solo. It has been our good fortune to hear some of the great violinists of the day, and we can safely say that this young lady has a

brilliant future before her if she follows up her art. The great point about Miss Jansen's playing is her power and strength in bowing, and for this she has in a great measure to thank her late teacher Mr. Iburg, who had he lived would have been justly proud of the success of his pupil on Thursday night. On glancing through the programme we thought that the choice of an operatic selection as a solo, following immediately on the heels of the selection from *La Fille du Regiment*, was perhaps a little hazardous, but we were mistaken. The success of the Fantaisie from *La Traviata* was unquestionable, each number of the piece, whether grave or gay, melody or variation, was applauded to the echo, and at its conclusion the young artiste retired under a perfect tornado of plaudits to which she responded by playing most sweetly and gracefully one of Mendelssohn's *Lieder*.

The singers will not, we hope, be offended if we say that the vocal music was not quite up to the level of the instrumental on Thursday night. The duet, "The Rose Maiden," sung by Mrs. Findlay and Mr. Fleet, does not sound so well when taken out of the *Cantata* in which it is set, and the very changeable weather had had its effect on both voices. Mrs. Lancaster's voice was not improved by her nervousness in the song "Sunshine and Rain," but she made a greater success with her encore song, "My Lady's Bower," by Hope Temple, with its exquisite gavotte-like accompaniment, admirably played by M. Vela. The quartet "Evening," was short and pretty, and would have been encored had it come on earlier. Miss Edger's harp solo on Welsh Airs was heartily applauded. To take the orchestral pieces in detail, we may say that the overtures to *Fra Diavolo* and *Maritana*, both very difficult pieces, were uncommonly well played, but the piece that roused the audience to the greatest enthusiasm was the selection from *La Fille du Regiment*, which was an immense improvement on *Carmen*. The Ballet music from *Faust* was very good, tuny and captivating; the *Athletic* march was well executed, but we were sorry to hear that it was played without the usual repeats. Mr. Sullivan and M. Vinay deserve hearty thanks and praise for their accompaniments.

In conclusion we may say that this has been quite the most enjoyable concert we have heard for some time here. None of the music was above the heads of the audience while it was all standard if not severely classical. The Society is now one of Shanghai's accomplished facts, and it only remains with the members to stand by their colours, and by not allowing any retrograde movement, to keep it so. They have a most excellent working committee, the executive member of which Mr. J. A. Sullivan, is most energetic in his efforts to keep up the efficiency of the Society, and it is mainly due to his indomitable energy that the Society has attained the excellent position it now occupies.

S.V.C. ANNUAL INSPECTION.

On Saturday afternoon, the Volunteers mustered at the Central Police Compound as a preliminary to their Annual Inspection on the Race Course by an officer from Hongkong, in this case Major Chater of the 91st Regiment. The muster included 21 Light Horse, under the command of Captain Hough; 53 Artillery—out of a total of 63, of whom 6 were sick and 4 absent on leave—commanded by Captain Brodie Clarke; and 124 Infantry, commanded by Captains Dudgeon, No. 1 Co., Bright No. 2, and Boyd Bredon No. 3; the Band under Chev. Vela mustered 26 strong, the whole, with Major Morrison, Surgeon Major Henderson, Surgeon Milles and the Sergeant Major, making a force of 224 all told.

After the Volunteers had fallen in, Major Chater minutely inspected the men's ac-

countrements and saw them put through a few manoeuvres, and after the companies had been equalised, the whole marched out of the Foochow Road gate to Kiangsue Road, then to Nanking Road and on to the Race Course. The men presented a very good appearance and their marching was also good. Arrived at the Race Course, they found the ground in a very unsatisfactory condition owing to the late rain, but they soon took up their positions and were inspected by the Major. They marched past exceedingly well, considering the state of the ground and went through a number of manoeuvres which lasted till past 5 o'clock. Then a bit of a sham fight was indulged in. When all this was over, the men were drawn up to hear what Major Chater had to say about them. He said that from what he had heard of the Shanghai Volunteers, he had formed a certain idea of the standard of their efficiency. He was glad to say that since he had seen them, he had found that they had gone beyond that standard. He had had an opportunity of seeing them for the past ten days or so before the Parade, and was much pleased with them. He said that the Volunteers had other duties to attend to, so that they could not attend regularly at drill, and so allowances must be made for them, but he was glad to say he could inform General Cameron that they quite came up to, in fact, exceeded the standard he, Major Chater, had, from what he had previously heard and seen in the reports, expected to find the Volunteers had reached, especially as they had only one month in the year to drill in, with an occasional turn-out at other times. He then spoke to the Light Horse and said he admired the quiet way Captain Hough gave his orders, and the quiet way the work was done by the men. They were few in number which at first thought might be considered detracting from their usefulness; but they were all good horsemen, and knew the country well, so that they would prove very useful. With the Infantry he was well satisfied. He had noticed that there were a few imperfections and he would put them down on paper, and hoped that next year these imperfections would be remedied. The company and battalion drills were very good. He said the Artillery men drove very well and he was pleased with them, not so much with the present parade, as with what he had seen of them before, when the ground was not in such bad condition as at present, and they had much improved since he saw them the first time.

Major Morrison, on behalf of himself and Volunteers, thanked Major Chater for the attention he had given to the Volunteers since he came up to Shanghai. He admitted the imperfections and said he was sure the Volunteers would do all they could to remedy them before the Inspection next year. He referred to the standing order to the effect that in case of any disturbance, only "efficient" Volunteers would be called out.

Mr. Macgregor, the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Civil Commandant of the Volunteers, on behalf of himself and the Council, thanked Major Chater for his kindness in inspecting the Force, and the Volunteers for their having attained such a high state of efficiency. After this, three cheers were given for Major Chater, Major Morrison and Mr. Macgregor. The Volunteers then returned to the Police Compound and were dismissed.

On Sunday morning, the Annual Church Parade took place at the Cathedral, and there was a very fair muster. The Light Horse mustered 14; the Artillery 30, and the Infantry about 60. The whole marched off from the Band, the Volunteers bringing up the rear of a column consisting of themselves, the Town Band, the band belonging to the *Constance* and some hundred and twenty sailors and marines from that ship.

Correspondence.

PORT ARTHUR.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I notice in your issue of 26th March, under the title "Notes from Native Papers" some assertions which are positively erroneous about the negotiations in connection with the building of the military harbour of Port Arthur, and the state of the works carried out under my direction by the French Syndicate.

I have never asked His Excellency the Viceroy Li Hung-chang to increase the price originally stipulated for the works contracted for; the supplementary conventions which intervened, on my proposal, since the contract was signed in 1886, have had, on the contrary, as result to decrease the total expenditure by the adoption of methods, which were at the same time cheaper and more satisfactory from a nautical point of view.

As to the final success of the undertaking, you may fully reassure those persons who may have shown any signs of uneasiness: the famous springs of water "as numerous as the cells in a honeycomb" have been so fully conquered that the dock is now completely dry, and the workmen are busy now lowering the floor to the agreed level and making the anchorages for the mooring of the ships.

Notwithstanding the serious but not unforeseen difficulties under which these works have been executed, they will be completed within the prescribed time, and H.E. Chow was able, during his last visit to the works, to satisfy himself that they were progressing very favourably.

In truth, the newspapers by which foreign interests are represented here, and amongst which the *North-China Daily News* stands foremost, ought to "look before they leap" and not spread broadcast idle gossip which, if believed in, would only serve to discredit all foreign industry in China.

Craving the insertion of this letter in one of your next issues,

I remain, Sir,

Your faithfully,

J. THEVENET,

*L'Ingénieur en Chef des Ponts et Chaussées.
Chef de la Mission de l'Industrie Française
en Chine.*

Tientsin, 1st April, 1889.

CHUNGKING.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Hitherto in this part of China there has been no open opposition on the part of officials to foreigners residing in their midst. Not to mention Roman Catholic missionaries who occupy every important city in the province, there are no less than seven cities where reside members of Protestant missions. Though in one or two cases in opening new stations there has been some slight disturbance by the people which met with poorly disguised official sympathy, yet the officials themselves have never before taken the hostile initiative. A recent occurrence, however, makes it look as though a new policy was about to be instituted.

Some time last year Mr. Davidson, of the Friends' Mission, visited T'ungchuan which lies midway between Pao-ning and Chentu with the view of opening it as a mission station. A house was rented of a man of military rank, and, leaving directions for repairs, he returned to Hanchung in Shansi. Neither during his stay there nor afterward did the people manifest anything but peaceful intentions.

Suddenly, as a thunderbolt from a clear sky, came a letter from the district magis-

trate ordering him to refrain from locating in T'ungchuan, giving as a reason that it was not within the scope of the treaty as a place opened to foreigners for residence and trade. As might be inferred, a district magistrate in this isolated region did not come to this sage conclusion all by himself, but in consequence of a letter received from the Governor General in response to one of his asking for directions.

The present Governor General is reputed to be less friendly to foreigners than his predecessor, and this would seem to confirm it. He opens what elsewhere has been a much debated question, but which here seemed fast being settled by tacit acquiescence and precedent. It will be seen that the T'ungchuan case is a test one, having a most important bearing on the question of foreign residence in all West China, as all places stand on the same footing as regards the treaty. Indeed T'ungchuan itself has long been the residence of a Catholic priest.

At present, Mr. Davidson and his wife are at Hanchung awaiting a settlement of the case. The services of the Consular Resident at Chungking have been enlisted and what the result may be remains to be seen.

The prefectural examinations are now in progress here and the military begin about the middle of April. For some time there have been threats of tearing down the newly rebuilt Catholic cathedral because it is said to be higher than an adjoining temple. Many years ago, when the building was built, the same complaint was made, and the officials demanded that it be lowered several feet or they would not be responsible for the consequences. At that time it was determined what the limit of the height should be. When work on the present building was begun the officials were assured that it should not exceed the limit previously fixed. Since complaints have been made the higher officials have all been to see the building measured, and find that the limit has not been exceeded. Many, however, both of students and people believe, or pretend to believe that the officials are deceiving them, and charge that they have been bribed by the Catholics. The officials seem to have taken precautions and we hope an outbreak may be avoided.

In order to lessen the number of students present at any one time, the districts are being examined from one to four at a time. And the same method is to be followed at the military examinations, much to the disgust of the students.

Yours, etc.,

SPENCER LEWIS.

Chungking, 22nd March.

THE FISHES OF ST. NEOT.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I beg you would kindly make room in your columns for a short answer to Mr. G. L. Mason's letter inserted in your issue of 1st April. To make myself more generally understood, I avail myself of the services of a friend and write in English.

Mr. Mason, in that letter, reverts again to a question which I considered as fully cleared up by a statement of the views of Catholics on the subject. He insists on saying that the fact in question is proposed to the belief of the faithful exactly in the same manner as the Gospel facts related further on.

A little consideration will suffice to show that it is not so. Thus in the *Sheng-sin Pao* the Gospel narrative is distinguished from other articles or current news: 1, by a distinct paging; 2, by the place it occupies outside of the review; 3, by a special title "A concordance of the Evangelist," repeated on each page; 4, by naming at each paragraph the particular Evangelist quoted; 5, by an introduction prefacing the work

and setting forth its purport. Other matters, on the contrary, are given as current newspaper talk, under which head came the "Fish story." This shows well enough that it was not presented as Gospel truth. Besides, true earnest Catholics well know how to make out the difference between the Gospel miracles and those ascribed to Saints. The former they believe unhesitatingly as inspired narrative, while they give credence to the latter only as far as they seem to be proved. This is clear for me, a Chinaman brought up in China, and that the same holds true with my Catholic fellow-countrymen I know by experience from a child.

But now to come to the fishes, is that story well proved?—The truth is that it has not the authority of the Catholic church. In what belongs to the life and miracles of the Saints the church calls but very few points to her tribunal, while on the rest she allows writers a great and proper liberty, together with the corresponding responsibility. It would therefore be quite unfair to impute to her whatever errors those writers may have fallen into, and say that her system is a "headlong mingling of the false with the true."

But now does the editor of the *Sheng-sin Pao* believe it?—Why not? In relating it, the biographer of the beginning of the twelfth century relies upon a narrative which he calls *very celebrated*: "istas fere omnes et maxime comprovinciales celebrant concinunt relatione."

Now Mr. Mason cannot deny that it was quite as easy for God to do this miracle as it had been to do those of the Old and New Testament, where more than once, under God's almighty hand either fishes or other animals play a very uncommon part. He cannot either deny that, according to the Gospel, the period of miracles must have extended after Christ and His Apostles: "Amen, amen dico vobis, qui credit in me, opera que ego facio et ipse faciet et majora illorum faciet; Amen, Amen, I say to you, he that believeth in me, the works that I do he shall also do, and greater than these shall he do." (John, XIV, 12). This same declaration is found in Matt. XXI, 22; XVII, 19, and in Mark XVI, 17, 18. If therefore faith has not gone out of the world, it can still work miracles. Such is the reason why miracles have not ceased in the Catholic church, and I am not surprised to see so many related in the "Acta Sanctorum." They are a consequence of the promises of our divine Lord. And this is why, with all reservation as to the judgment of the Church, I find no difficulty to admit any that may be told with sincerity and upon sufficient evidence, until at least the narrative be proved to be false.

But, do you say, you ought at least to have prefaced some remarks to the narrative. This objection, several friends made it to me long before Mr. Mason. I have already said how I had not even thought of it, feeling instinctively that the readers would themselves make out the difference. But granting this to have been wrong, the fault is mine alone, and where is the writer that will never have a moment of forgetfulness? At all events that would give no right to draw inferences against all Jesuits, Cardinals, Popes, etc. If the fault is of one alone, what right to impute it to all? It would be the famous sophism *ab uno disce omnes*.

With regard to the Bollandists, the celebrated authors of the "Acta Sanctorum," I cannot understand why Mr. Mason should be so severe against them, and I rather suspect he has not seen the work. If he had run over its pages, he would have seen that it is altogether a labour of criticism. The lives of the Saints were not written by them. What they did was to seek out ancient monuments, which they examined critically, trying to fix the dates and to discover who were the authors.

Though, out of respect for the documents, they give them in full, it is not that they accept everything therein related, the contrary being evident from the critical notes added here and there.

I can still less understand why Mr. Mason should treat as fabulous the translation of the House of Loretto, a fact so carefully examined and certified by so many witnesses. If it be rejected, there is as good reason to set aside three-fourths of the historical facts universally admitted as perfectly proved, for miracles are proved in the same manner as other historical facts. Let us however remark in answer to a jeering insinuation, that Catholics and the Roman Church do not set facts of this kind among those that are the object of the infallible decisions of the Church, which decisions only fall upon the doctrine of faith and morals as well as upon dogmatic facts.

In conclusion allow me to say that I cannot see anything in my first answer to justify the sarcasm and abuse showered upon us. This unwelcome result induces me to close this discussion, which has not been of my raising, and cannot be continued to any advantage: for the questions here touched upon would require to be treated more at length than it was possible within the columns of a newspaper. They are fully developed in many a standard work which I would take pleasure to point out to any impartial enquirer anxious of arriving at the truth on the subject.

Editor of the *Sheng-sin Pao*.

Zi-ka-wei, 4th April, 1889.

FAMINE RELIEF WORK.

Chefoo, Friday, 5th April, 1889.

To the

North-China Famine Relief Committee.

DEAR SIRs,—The following extracts from letters recently received from the famine region are of interest. On the 21st of March J. Percy Bruce wrote as follows:—“Dear Dr. Nevius.—Having but a small stock of the language and so less pressure than the rest engaged in Famine Relief, I thought I would write to you on one or two points connected with our work.

As you know, Mr. Jones is distributing relief at this centre, Tung Pin-chen. The area over which distribution is spread is an oval extending about 10 li N. and S., about 5 li S.W. and 15 N.E. Throughout this district the soil is in many places still so wet as to make it impossible to till, and where it is dry it is covered with a white alkaline substance giving an appearance to the eye very much resembling white hoar frost. Dotted all over this kind of ground you may see women and children busy digging up the roots of weeds which form the main means of support.

The method adopted is practically that followed by Mr. Laughlin. The elders of the village to be relieved are requested to draw up a list limiting the names to those of families who have left no possible means of support. If the number of names on the list given is considered too high, it is returned to them to reduce. The homes of these families are then inspected by one of us, or by a native helper, and in each case the number of mouths to be relieved is fixed. A list of these is posted up in the village, and the elders receive every seven days a cheque on the bank in Peking for the total amount. This they fetch and distribute to the different families according to the list posted up.

There is unhappily no doubt about the destitution all round. The question is not “Where shall we relieve?” but rather “Where shall we relieve first?” * * * * * That the people are actually dying of starvation there can be no question. Mr. Drake told me that as nearly as he could judge half the people to whom he is distributing the funds would otherwise die, and that the other half would be so re-

duced that many of them would fall an easy prey to disease. I myself in villages that I inspected with Mr. Whitewright felt that the majority of those we saw in the houses must die if not relieved. In many we found one or more sick on the k'ang, others were evidently already feeble by the way they tottered to the door. Some fell on their knees to beseech help, and were too weak to rise without assistance. In almost every family the faces were yellow like that of a man with jaundice, pinched, and in many cases with puffy cheeks or eyelids. What was most affecting of all was the *coiled* expression on the faces of some of the young men.

Mr. Jones was telling me of a case yesterday. A list had been sent in by the elders of a village with what Mr. Jones considered to be altogether too high an average of names. He sent it back to be reduced, and it was reduced; but unfortunately and entirely by mistake it went back again. When the elders received it they burst into tears and said, “you might as well not come at all as tell us to reduce it again!” There was no mistaking the reality of that. Of course it was not meant to be again reduced, as the whole thing was by mistake.

Mr. Jones is anxiously hoping for more funds, and if they come in we shall extend the relieving limit in a north-easterly direction towards where Mr. Whitewright is stationed. To the S.W. from here, after about six or eight li the ground rises until you get within ten li of Kao-yuen City. Over all that district there seems to be good soil, and the crops look well and promising. As a rule the distress is proportionate to the level of the ground. A rise of 10 or 12 inches makes a difference at once.”

Extracts from Mr. and Mrs. Whitewright's Diary.

“March 1.—A few days ago I heard some people say that not only were they indebted to us for saving so many lives, and relieving so much distress, but that our coming when we did had done a great deal to keep matters peaceful, and prevent violence and robbery. Apropos of this, they tell me that in famine times the poor sometimes collect in a band and forcibly take possession of some wealthy man's premises. When established they commit no violence, simply stay there till they have eaten up all his store of grain, and when that is done invade another wealthy house in like manner, and “eat it up.” It seems that when once a crowd of starving people gets possession of a compound in this way, even the officials can't do much with them, and they have practically to be left alone, until, as they say, “everything has been eaten up.”

When we got to Shih Hien where I had formerly crossed the river, the people refused to take us across for less than 12,000 cash, in fact practically refused to take us at all. I had a suspicion that they thought they had us in a trap, and would compel us to stay and relieve that place. We had not been in the inn long before a considerable crowd gathered (many of them from their appearance starving) and kneeling down begged and prayed for help. It seemed as if it were soon going to be too much for our escort (four soldiers) so I went out and talked to them quietly, and then appealed to an old gentleman standing by to exert his influence on our behalf, which he immediately did, and the crowd dispersed.

March 18th.—In one village we visited there were scarcely any houses left. The people had pulled down their houses, sold all they could, and then left to go out to distant places to beg. Those who were left looked very miserable and poor. The place looked quite forsaken; one could scarcely realise that it had been the home of so many people. They had not even a decent room to ask us in there.

At another village some old men who came out to take us around were just crying

as they went from house to house. They said “It doesn't look like our own village; so many have pulled their houses down to sell for food, and every day some one is buried who has died of starvation. They are just carried out and buried, and one does not know who has died until one goes to enquire for them.”

They told me they had had no proper harvest for five years. The ground was all lying under water.

In one house we found a woman who was so starved she was too feeble to stand. Two poor little children with scarcely any clothes on were with her. They looked as if they could not live long. She was unable to go out to pick up the roots for them, and they were too little to go themselves. Grass roots are being sold in the market at twenty cash a lb. The father of this family had died of starvation. I was glad to come away from there, my heart felt like to break.

The villages we visited later on were just as bad. In one we found an old woman crying very loudly. She said that some people had come in the night and pulled down and stolen part of her roof. There she was, with half of her roof gone. She was quite alone, her sons having left her to go out to distant places to beg. Nearly all the houses in these villages were down.”

From the above extracts, and letters constantly coming to hand, it appears that in all the stations—now numbering seven—the work of relief is still going on without any serious obstruction or difficulty.

From particular enquiries about grains of different kinds, we learn that the supply which has entered the famine region, and is to be found in all the country markets, is equal to the demand. The average price of grain is about 250 per cent. above the ordinary rates, but it would perhaps cost more than this to import the grain from outside sources.

We have had some anxiety with regard to the depreciation of silver, and being able to obtain a sufficient supply of cash in exchange for silver to meet the demands for daily distribution. We think, however, that by a judicious apportionment of the silver in different cities, and market towns, and the favour of local officers under instructions from their superiors, no such depreciation may be experienced as seriously to affect the work.

Allow me to add a few words with reference to statements frequently met with in conversation, and also in print, calculated to discourage contributors and obstruct the work of Famine Relief such as the following. “These famines,” it is said, “occur every year; there is no end to them, and no means of preventing them, at least by foreigners. The money contributed by foreigners only affords temporary relief, and when these contributions cease the people are left just where they were before, and no permanent good is accomplished. The famine region is a miserable country, at the best, hardly fit to be inhabited by human beings; the people are poor and dependent and this gratuitous help will tend to make them still more thriftless.” There is about the same proportion of truth in these statements which is generally found in untruths, and which makes them dangerous.

With the exception of the western end of the famine belt, which is near the Yellow River, this famine is the result of an exceptionally severe rainfall of very rare occurrence; the distress is temporary, and the relief will be permanent. It will take, it is true, a generation to rebuild houses, and restore the former condition of this region; but one favourable year with good harvests would render the mass of the people independent of help. This region is no doubt inferior to many other parts of Shantung in productiveness, but it has heretofore supported a large population, rich and poor. A season of ordinary crops would improve the conditions of all classes. The average farmer

would be able to support his family, field hands would find employment, the business of artisans and shopkeepers would be revived, and even the helpless and dependent would share in the prosperity of others.

We are very glad of the prospect of soon receiving from you Tls. 10,000 more for purchasing seed grain. This additional grant is very timely, and will be most useful.

We hope that we may be able also to extend the enrolment still further. At every centre there are large files of pressing applications from villages outside our present limits, which are now in a much worse condition than those which have for weeks or months been receiving aid. To these pitiable appeals the daily and almost hourly answer is, "We cannot take you in with our present supply of funds. We have reached our utmost limit. We will do so however at once if money is sent to warrant it."

At this advanced period one half dollar would carry another person through the famine, and two hundred dollars an ordinary village. Will not our generous friends afford us the means for still another advance? We hope another large remittance will reach us before the end of next week. Rev. Geo. S. Hays is now waiting in Chefoo to take charge of it to the famine region, and we hope he may not be detained later than Monday the 15th prox.

On behalf of the Shantung Committee,
JOHN L. NEVINS.

P.S.—Will you kindly send this letter to the *Daily News* to be printed, as soon as may be? We are largely dependent on these published communications for miscellaneous contributions which are continually coming to us from various sources.

J. L. N.

THE FAMINE IN MANCHURIA.

The following report has been handed us for publication by Mr. H. M. Hillier, Hon. Sec. of the North-China Famine Relief Fund:—

On Wednesday, 20th March, I began work in the Liao-pai-ho district. We—that is Mr. Wylie and myself—had already visited the most destitute villages south of Moukden. And our two native assistants had been sent forward to prepare our way further south. When I arrived they had the district mapped out, and about 500 families visited. I at once purchased grain at a market town called Ah-shih-neio, and set to work. During the following ten days we were engaged from morning till night visiting the homes of the people. Considerably over 1,000 families were added to our list which already was between 2,000 and 3,000. Each family of six or seven "mouths" received a dole of 2 *ton* of grain, which we calculated would keep them going for a month. The name of each family was carefully entered in a book kept for the purpose, so that future distributions will not entail the great labour and fatigue which is inevitable. Before I proceed to give you some details of the distress let me state precisely how we stand with regard to funds. From the accounts I forward you will see that of the Tls. 5,000 sent by the N.-C. relief committee there is only Tls. 105.50 used. My colleague W. Wylie is at present engaged in the northern section—and probably in a few days will have spent the Tls. 1,000 which I have forwarded to him to-day. The work cannot in my opinion cease much before the end of June. There therefore remains 3,000 taels for these three months. That sum at least will be required to carry our present list through. There is a probability that we might be able to do more, of course it is a question of physical strength—as much as we are able to do we *must* do, while the people are famishing and provision is made. I therefore feel in this

position. I cannot plead for more with the assured certainty that we will be able to dispense it, and at the same time I should not like to be hampered if I *could* and had not the means.

Now let me lead you through some of the homes of the destitute and let you see things for yourselves. Our work takes us to villages some thirty *li* from grain merchants. We start early, but it is market day and the streets are crowded already with country people. I make some enquiries as I move through the crowd. Grain is more than three times the ordinary price. Horses and oxen are for sale at merely nominal prices; but there is nobody to buy. Articles of household furniture are offered at fire-wood prices, women's head gear, ornaments, earrings, bracelets, etc., are being bartered for handfuls of grain. Crowds of men, women and children move about begging for a pittance to keep them from starving. Passing into the open country we meet a man with his wife and three children, the eldest child 12, and the youngest one year. The man carries two baskets upon a bamboo pole. In one basket is a tin pot, a few bowls and some chopsticks—their earthly all. In the other his infant child. They have left their old home, and are bound for Hailung-cheng. They have no *p'au fei*, not a cash, don't know how far it is to Hailung-cheng, have no friends there, have just heard that there is corn there and good land and so they are going seven or eight hundred *li*, begging their way to a land they know not of! They are but a representative family of many hundreds who are every day begging their way to this promised land. They could not do better; and the government could not do better than clear out every family from the lower regions of the Liao at least, and colonise them in the rich and fertile plains in northern Manchuria. In the course of an hour we reach the place where our work awaits us. Imagine an extensive flat fifteen miles in breadth and twice as many in length, dotted over with willow copses and villages of small mud huts, many of them mere dens in the earth covered with a roof of millet a few feet above ground. Conceive of these pigsties, for they are nothing better many of them, crowded with human beings, men and women in the prime of manhood and womanhood, as far as years go, but prematurely enfeebled in body and as listless and indifferent as if they were old or had despairingly made up their minds to struggle on no more. In many cases their fathers and mothers of 60 and 70 years linger on by their side, in many cases they have died victims to the tyrant who has been stalking through the land. And those that remain? How shall I describe them? Imagine them, those poor old withered dirt-engrained creatures, wasted to mere skeletons, sunken cheeked and hollow eyed—fearsome! They are better imagined than described. It is a daily wonder to me how they survive in such numbers as they do under such horrible conditions. Surely there is no people under the sun who grasp life with such desperate tenacity as the Chinese. But of course they are dying daily. And then the children. The poor wee lambs of two years old and under, just at the age when they should be fat and chubby and full of life, such withered shrivelled-up mites of humanity. Sometimes I wondered if the still, inanimate-like creature lying in dirt and rags upon the kang was living or dead. It was simply heart-rending.

But I meant to lead you to the homes and let you see them for yourselves. Here is the very first we come to. It is about eleven o'clock, but "the pot has not yet boiled" they say and add, "it has not boiled for days" and for a very good reason, they have had nothing to boil.

"And what have you done?" we ask.

"Gone every second day to the nearest soup kitchen," they reply. It is eight

miles going, and another eight miles returning, and the river has to be crossed twice going, and twice returning.

"We have to start early and it is late before we return, and then we are both tired and hungry."—Sixteen miles for a bowl of gruel, and when they get home they are hungry.

"And to-morrow will be as this"—No, thanks to the generosity of those who have bread enough and to spare, they will be saved that sixteen miles for another month at least.

Now let us enter another. Here the pot is boiling and we lift the lid. When the steam is vanished there are displayed to view about a dozen lumps of a black substance. We learn that they are biscuits (save the mark) of the ground husk of buckwheat. The very sight of them is enough to make one sick. They live on nothing else, and the results are only too manifest in the lean yellow faces of the inmates. Next door we find two women busy with a basket of withered willow leaves, removing the rinds and preparing them for the steep. Besides them is a basin where the process of infusion is going on. Another woman with a hatchet knife is mincing them preparatory to boiling. Mixed with a little *k'ang* or ground husk, they are ready for the table. Whole villages with scores of family in each have been living thus for weeks. And so on and so on, the same sad tale from village to village from morning till night.

We personally visited about 100 families a day, and the condition of as many more was reported by my two assistants, whose devoted service and valuable help I cannot speak too highly of. In some places willow leaves were scarce, and a peculiar kind of weed called *Cha-t'suo* took its place. This was of two kinds. One is found only at the river side, the other is common everywhere. The former much resembles dried seaweed, the latter is more like fine hay. Both are treated in the same way as the willow leaf. A much more harmless article sometimes found was the young sprouts of the *Kao-tsu* 蒿子 which I take to be wild asparagus. They eat them uncooked, as a kind of luxury and regard them as very "toothsome" indeed; the children rejoice over them with a joy as great as children of a happier lot rejoice over sugar cakes and candy. But meantime like all delicacies they are rare. But enough. Over this immense district where for ten days I have been working, or at least in the thousand odd houses into which we penetrated, and they are but samples of thousand we could not undertake, we found not merely the negative evidence of famine, the absence of anything in the shape of grain, but the actual fact of the people feeding themselves with what we would not have the conscience to set before a dog, not even a pig for the matter of that.

And the results in disease and death? I have made careful enquiries at every village in regard to the number of deaths caused by famine; but have found it exceedingly difficult to tabulate them. Some said one thing, some another. "You see, Sir," said one man, "it all depends on what you mean by 'died of hunger.' If you mean those who have been frozen to death in search of food, those who from eating bad food have taken ill and died, the young children who have pined and pined at their mothers' milkless breasts and died, if you include all these then they are almost daily occurrences in every village." In eight cases funerals had taken place the day previous to our visit, and in four homes the dead were actually there waiting to be carried out, two women over 50 and two children under 10.

Odd bits of old matting with a rope round them lay scattered about here and there a hundred yards or so from every village, all empty of course, (the hungry dogs were too numerous) and all telling their own sad tale.

Disease was very rife, much more common than in the early part of the season. It was painful to listen to the "Ai yahs" groaned out by poor wretched sufferers in every other house. It is not pleasant to think of the future in respect to disease. With the people run down as they are through want and vicious food, an epidemic of typhus or cholera would simply sweep them down. May God avert the stroke.

JAMES WEBSTER.

Moukden, Manchuria, 30th March.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHARITY BALL.

The following accounts, which have been handed us by Mr. R. Wagner, Consul-General for France, will be read with much interest:—

Ball de Bienfaisance du 4 Mars 1889.

RECEIPTS.

Entries, 458 a \$5	\$2,290.00
Tombola, 500 tickets a 0.50	250.00
Refreshments	478.80
Received from Mr. Daglietto (through Mr. Guillien) Tls. 70	96.00
Total	\$3,114.80

EXPENDITURE.

Ball and Tombola	\$ 87.40
Refreshments	351.01
	\$ 438.41
Balance	\$2,676.39
Total	\$3,114.80

Paid to Mgr. Garnier	\$1,200.00
" Rev. W. Muirhead	1,200.00
" North China Famine Relief Fund	276.39
	\$2,676.39

G. LAJEAT,
Hon. Treasurer.

Shanghai, 5th April, 1889.

CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS.

PHYSICAL VITALITY.

That physical vitality which forms so important a background for other Chinese characteristics, deserves consideration by itself. It may be regarded in four aspects; the reproductive power of the Chinese race; its adaptation to different circumstances; its longevity, and its recuperative power.

It has already been repeatedly remarked that the first impression which the traveller derives from the phenomena of Chinese life, is that of redundancy. China seems to be full of people. It seems to be so, because it is so. Japan, too, appears to have a large population, but it does not take a very discriminating eye to perceive that the dense population of Japan bears no proportion to the dense population of China. In respect of relative and absolute density of population, China more nearly resembles India than any other country. But the people and the languages of India are many and various, while the people of China, with some exceptions not materially affecting the issue, are one and the same. This first impression of a redundant population is everywhere confirmed, no matter in what portion of this broad empire we set our foot. Where the population is in reality sparse, this is generally found to be due to causes which are susceptible of easy explanation. The terrible inroads of the great Taiping rebellion, followed by the only less destructive Mohammedan rebellion, and by the almost unparalleled famine of 1877-78, extending over five provinces, reduced the total population of China, perhaps by many scores of millions. The devastations

due to war are not so soon repaired to the eye as they would be in western lands, owing to the great reluctance of the Chinese to leave their ancestral homes and go into new regions. Nevertheless, it is not difficult to perceive that the forces of waste, no matter how devastating, are not so powerful as the forces of repair. With a few decades of peace and good crops, almost any part of China would, we think, recuperate from the disasters which during this century have come in such battalions. The provision for this recuperation is visible to every one, and forces itself upon his notice whether he does or does not desire to contemplate it. Have any of our readers ever been in any part of the Chinese empire where the most conspicuous objects in the towns and villages were not the troops of Chinese children, with which, as Charles Lamb says in his deprecation of the pride of over-proud mothers, 'every blind alley swarms'? It is one of the standing marvels of Chinese society, by what means such a vast army of little ones is fed and clothed, and it must be well borne in mind, that many of them are not 'fed and clothed' to any extent, in other words, that the most extreme poverty does not apparently tend to diminish Chinese population. The only permanent and effective check upon the rapid increase of the Chinese population, appears to be the confirmed use of opium, a foe to the Chinese race more deadly than war, famine and pestilence combined. It is by no means necessary in order to receive a high idea of the multiplying power of the Chinese, to assume the existence in China of a population far vaster in numbers than that of any other country. Even if we take the lowest estimate of about two hundred and fifty millions, the point is abundantly established, for the question is not one of the mere number of people, but of the rate of increase. In the absence of any statistics, we must be content to come at conclusions in a general and an inexact way, but fortunately in this matter it is almost impossible to go wrong. The Chinese marry at a very early age, and the desire for posterity is the one ruling passion, in which, next to the love of money, the Chinese race is most agreed. Contrast the apparent growth of the Chinese at any point, with the condition of the population in France, where the rate of increase is the lowest in all Europe, and where for four years together, the returns of seventy-three departments showed an absolute decrease in the number of inhabitants. Such facts have excited the gravest fears as to the future of that great country. The Chinese, on the other hand, show no more signs of race decay than the Anglo-Saxons. The earliest recorded command given by God to mankind, was that in which they were instructed to "be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth." That command, as a learned professor once remarked, "has been obeyed, and it is the only command of God that has been obeyed," and of no country is this more true than of China. The Chinese Empire, as we have already had repeated occasion to remark, extends through a great area in latitude and longitude, and embraces within itself almost every variety of soil, climate and production. So far as appears, the Chinese seem to flourish equally in the sub-tropical region, the sub-arctic region, or anywhere between. Whatever differences are observed, seem to be due to the character of the region itself, and its capacity to sustain the population, rather than to any inherent difference in the capacity of the people to adapt themselves to one region rather than to another. The emigrating portions of the Chinese people come from a relatively minute area in the provinces of Kuangtung and Fukien, but wherever they go, to India, Burma, Siam, the East Indies, the Pacific Islands, Australasia, Mexico, the United States, the West Indies, Central America, or South America, we never hear that they fail to

adapt themselves with wonderful and immediate success to their environment, whatever it may chance to be. What we do hear, however, is that their adaptation is so quick and so perfect, their industry and their economy so in excess of those of the natives of these lands, their solidarity and their power of mutual cohesion so phenomenal, that it is necessary for the security of the remainder of the human race that "the Chinese must go!" Under these circumstances, it is certainly most fortunate for the peace of mind of that portion of mankind which is not Chinese, that this people does not as a whole take to emigration on a large scale. If the eastern part of the Asiatic continent were now as full of irrepressible human beings, longing to turn their energies toward the rest of the planet, as was central Asia in the middle ages, it is hard to see what would become either of us, or of our doctrine that the fittest only survive.

The utter absence of any kind of statistics renders it impossible to speak of the longevity of the Chinese people, in any other than the most general way. Probably all observers would agree in the conclusion that there is no part of China in which old people are not exceedingly numerous. The aged are always treated with great respect, and old age is held to be an exceeding great honour, and is reckoned as the foremost of the five varieties of felicity. The extreme care which is taken to preserve accurate records of the date of birth, down to the precise hour, tends to precision of statement, when there is any occasion for such precision, albeit the ordinary method of counting, as has been mentioned, is so loose and inaccurate. The testimony of graveyard tablets is in favour of a considerable degree of longevity among the common people, but except in the vicinity of supplies of stone, these tablets are not to be found over more than the minutest fraction of the whole number of graves, so that whatever inferences might otherwise be drawn from them, as witnesses the tablets are practically valueless. It is not common to hear of Chinese who are more than a hundred years of age,* but short of that limit the numbers of very aged who could anywhere be collected, if sufficient inducement were offered, we must consider as very large. Indeed when the exceedingly imperfect nutrition of the poor, who constitute so large a part of the population of China, is taken into account, it becomes a wonder how such numbers of people survive to so great an age. It is well known that in all western lands, throughout the present century, the average duration of life has been constantly rising. This is due to the increased attention paid to the laws of life, to improved means of preventing disease and to improved means of treating it. It must be remembered that in China, on the other hand, the conditions of life do not seem to vary greatly from what they were when Columbus discovered America. If social and medical science could do for China what has been done for England within the past fifty years, the number of very old people in the former country would certainly be very greatly increased.

The complete ignorance of the laws of hygiene which characterises almost all Chinese, and their apparent contempt for those laws even when apprehended, are well known to all foreigners who live in China. To a foreign observer it is a standing problem, why the various diseases which this ignorance and defiance of natural laws invite, do not exterminate the Chinese

* There is a strong prejudice in some parts of China against being a full hundred years of age. In some instances persons have been known to call themselves 99 for several years together; possibly the oblique mental reference is to the old man whom Confucius rapped on the shins with a staff, and of whom he remarked, "Old, and yet he will not die."

altogether. While vast numbers of people do die every year in China of diseases which are entirely preventible, the fact that the number of such persons is not indefinitely greater, argues on the part of the Chinese a marvellous capacity to resist disease, and to recover from it. In the total absence of those vital statistics to which we have already so often regretfully referred, we are obliged to depend upon the recorded observations of foreigners, which, owing to the constantly increasing number of foreign dispensaries and hospitals, are becoming year by year more numerous and more valuable. To analyse and tabulate the medical reports issued even in a single year, with a view to illustrating the recuperative power of the Chinese, would be a most useful task, and the result would certainly present the object in a fresh and forcible manner. We must, however, be content with the mere statement of a few cases, by way of illustration, two of which occurred within the knowledge of the writer, while the third is taken from the published reports of a large hospital in Tientsin. The whole force of instances of this sort depends upon the undoubted fact, that they are by no means isolated and altogether exceptional cases, but are such as could be matched by the observation of very many of our readers.

Several years ago, while living in a house with a Chinese family, the writer heard one afternoon the most dismal screams under the window, where was placed a large beehive, made of adobe bricks, and open at the bottom. A little boy fourteen months of age, was playing in the yard and seeing this opening into what looked like a convenient play-house, had injudiciously crawled in. The child's head was shaved perfectly bare, and was very red. The bees either resenting the unusual intrusion, or mistaking the bald pate for a huge peony, promptly lit upon the head, and began to sting. Before he could be removed, the child had received more than thirty stings. The child cried but a few moments, and then being laid on the kang went to sleep. No medicine of any sort being at hand, nothing was applied to the skin. During the night the child was perfectly quiet, and the next day no trace of the swelling remained. In the year 1878, a carter in the employ of a foreign family in Peking, was taken with the prevalent typhus fever, of which so many died. On the thirteenth day when the disease reached a crisis, the patient, who had been very ill indeed, became exceedingly violent, exhibiting the strength of several men. Three persons were deputed to watch him, all of whom were exhausted with their labours. During the night of this day, the patient was tied to the bed to prevent his escape. While the watchers were all asleep, he contrived to loosen the cords with which he was bound, and escaped from the house perfectly naked. He was missed at about 3 a.m., and the whole premises were searched, including the wells, into which it was feared he might have plunged. He was traced to the wall of the compound, which was nine or ten feet in height, and which he had scaled by climbing a tree. He leaped or fell to the ground on the outer side of this wall, and at once made his way to the moat just inside the great wall which separates the Tartar city of Peking from the Chinese city. Here he was found two hours later, his head wedged fast between the upright iron bars which prevent passage through the culvert under the wall. As he had passionately demanded to be taken to this place to cool his fever, it was evident that he had been in this situation for a great length of time. On being taken home, his fever was found to be thoroughly broken, and though troubled with rheumatism in the legs he made a slow but sure recovery. A Tientsin man about thirty years of age, had been in the habit of making a living by collecting spent shells around the grounds where Chinese troops were engaged in artillery practice. On one occasion he

secured a shell, when on attempting to break it open, it exploded, and blew off his left leg. He was admitted to the hospital, and an amputation was performed below the knee. Instead of being cured of this dangerous mode of getting a precarious living, the man returned to it again as soon as possible, and about six months later, under similar circumstances, another explosion took place, which blew off his left hand about two inches above the wrist, leaving a ragged wound. The upper portion of the right arm was severely singed by powder. Deep lacerations took place over the bridge of the nose, and on the upper lip punctured wounds, the result of exploding pieces of shell, were made on the right cheek, on the right upper eyelid, on the posterior edge of the frontal bone, and on the right wrist. There was also a deep cut over the right tibia, exposing the bone. On receiving these severe injuries, the man lay in a semi-unconscious and helpless condition for four hours, exposed to the heat of the sun. A mandarin happening to see him ordered some coolies to carry him to the hospital, himself accompanying them for two miles. The bearers apparently became tired of their burden, and as soon as the mandarin was gone, threw the poor wretch into a ditch to die. Though much exhausted by the hemorrhage, he managed to crawl out and hop for five hundred yards to a grain shop, where he found a large basket of meal, which he overturned with his sound arm, and coiled himself inside. To get rid of him, the owners of the shop carried him in the basket to the hospital gates, where he was left outside to die. Although in a condition of extreme collapse, and with a feeble pulse, due to the loss of so much blood, the patient had no mental impairment and was able to converse intelligibly. He had been addicted to opium smoking, a circumstance which could not have been favourable to recovery. Yet with the exception of diarrhoea on the fifth and sixth days, and slight attacks of malaria, the patient had throughout no bad symptoms, and left the hospital with a wooden leg, four weeks after his admission.

Two men were once conversing on the use of tobacco, which one of them affirmed to be 'a slow poison.' This the other denied, citing the case of his own grandfather, who after having used tobacco all his life, was hale and hearty at the age of seventy. Not at all disconcerted by this instance, the first speaker replied, "Depend upon it, if your grandfather had not used tobacco, he might have been eighty to this day!" If a people with such physical endowments as the Chinese, were to be preserved from the effects of war, famines, pestilence and opium, and if they were to pay some attention to the laws of physiology and of hygiene, and to be uniformly nourished with suitable food, there is some reason to think that they alone would be adequate to occupy the principal part of the planet and more.

A CHINAMAN ON THE CHINESE EXCLUSION QUESTION.

Wu Kuang-p'ei, formerly a member of the Chinese Embassy to the United States, Spain and Peru, writes as follows on the Chinese emigration question. This letter has a prominent place in the *Hu Pao* of 1st April:—

What is the cause of the opposition to the Chinese in the United States? I reply, the Irish. The Irish are natives of one of the British Isles, they are by nature violent and idle, and generally very poor. When there was a great demand for labour to open the new country, the Irish flowed to America as water seeks a lower level; they neither traded nor tilled the earth for themselves, but lived by hiring out their labour to employers. They found Chinese

already on the ground and as Chinese labour was cheap, and Irish dear, Chinese labourers mild and tractable, and Irish labourers independent and unmanageable, the capitalists and rich people of America preferred to engage the Chinese to work for them. The Irish labourers observing that the Chinese were earning a living and enriching themselves to a certain extent, while they themselves, arriving in ever increasing numbers, found it hard to feed and clothe themselves, proceeded from envy and dislike to open violence, and robbery and murder of Chinese began to be quite frequent.

The reasons why, as is often stated, Chinese cannot become attached to America are the following. Irish immigrants to that country become citizens of it, while Chinese remain under the Chinese flag. The Southern party of America have a strong sympathy with the Irish, and the Chinese labourers moreover by the mere fact of working for Northern employers earn the hatred of this powerful Southern faction. In 1881 I was with our Minister Ch'eng at Washington, when the laws against Chinese immigration were just commencing. Their first originator was a Southern statesman, named Beecher (?), and at first, although he had obtained adherents very rapidly, there were still many opposed to his views. Our Minister Ch'eng spoke both officially and unofficially on the subject, losing no opportunity of laying his views before American statesmen and others. General Hancock of New York, a man of great justice and integrity, was opposed to the prevention of Chinese immigration, and our Minister made great efforts to secure him as a friend in the camp, judging that he would prove a valuable auxiliary in silencing the opposing voices of the anti-Chinese party at Washington. At this time, by the Minister's directions, I brought out my Dialogue on the Chinese Emigration Question, with its twelve difficulties and our proposed solution; showing that Chinese immigration did them no harm at all, while its prohibition would cause great harm to us. The Minister Ch'eng approved of my observations and often adduced them in argument, continuing strenuously to support our cause. The President was then a Northerner, in his heart by no means opposed to Chinese immigration, but unable to declare his real opinions publicly. There were many debates on the subject in Congress without any conclusion being arrived at, but what was now proposed was no longer the total prohibition of Chinese immigration, as at first, but its restriction.

Restriction meant that the Chinese residents in America were not to be expelled, and might visit China and return to the States, but that their number was not to be increased from China. When this was agreed to, Minister Ch'eng went to Peru; but the following year was attacked by paralysis, and returned to the States for medical treatment. I remained in Peru.

Back again at Washington, our Minister took up the claims of our people who had been attacked, or murdered, in California, with ardour; but just about that time a Southerner became President, and the total exclusionist party became very powerful again. This bait was now laid for us to swallow; a great increase in the indemnity if we could agree to total prohibition of Chinese immigration. Our Envoy repulsed this bait, and the question of the indemnity hung on unsettled while the time drew nigh for the Envoy's return to China. Our opponents now took advantage of the weakening of our position caused by the advent of a new representative, to hold out the bait again. The Imperial Government, however, whose piercing vision reaches to tens of thousands of li from Peking, commiserated its poor subjects so far away in a foreign land, and finally refused to consent to what was asked of us; but the U.S. Government proclaimed the total prohibition as law, without our consent, in a way

contrary to international law and to human reason and good feeling, filling the minds of our officials and people with regret and indignation.

The methods which I would humbly suggest might be employed to retrieve what we have lost, are the following, which I will preface by what I consider are strong encouragements for us. The latter are:—

(1) The Emperor has not signed the Convention excluding Chinese immigrants. According to international law, although a Minister at a foreign Court may have signed such a convention on behalf of his country, the seal and signature of the respective heads of the state are necessary before it can become binding.

(2) Their President will soon be changed. The President with whom the late Minister Chêng discussed the question of restriction of Chinese immigration, was a Northerner. He was succeeded by a Southerner, and their *total prohibition* came on the *tapis* instead of restriction. A Northern President will succeed him, and his policy is not likely to be the same. The North do not hate the Chinese very much, and we can take the opportunity to advance our arguments with redoubled vigour and with a better chance of success.

In the American papers it is said that the principal legal authority has expressed himself to the following effect:—The Chinese Government refuse to consent to the rule excluding Chinese immigrants, but nevertheless all that we have to do is to obey our own Government. Now from all that we can gather there is not likely to be entire unanimity of opinion on the Chinese question among the members of the American Government, for a long time, and hence there must be a delay which will be in favor of our emigrant class.

I come now to the active measures which we might take ourselves, of which three different ones occur to me.

(1) Let our Tsungli Yamèn write to their Foreign Office, maintaining that the law of all nations prescribes that an international arrangement in the nature of a convention between two of them is not binding until the advisability of making such an arrangement has been properly discussed between them and until it has been signed by the respective sovereigns of the two contracting powers. That the U.S. Government have committed a breach of international law in proclaiming to their officials and people that such an arrangement is to be enforced against intending Chinese immigrants, without waiting for the sovereign of China to signify his assent to such an arrangement by signing a fresh convention to that effect. That if America claims complete independence of action and avows the principle of benefiting itself, regardless of the injury caused to other nations, then perhaps we may on our side frame new Regulations prejudicial to Americans, and promulgate them as law without troubling ourselves to wait for the consent of America. Then if America should consent to such new Regulations made by us injuriously affecting American citizens, we can reciprocate her complaisance by agreeing to the law excluding Chinese from the States.

(2) In the XXX Article of the American Treaty with China, it is agreed "that should at any time the Ta-Tsing Empire grant to any nation, or the merchants or citizens of any nation, any right, privilege, or favour, connected either with navigation, commerce, political or other intercourse, which is not conferred by this Treaty, such right, privilege, and favour shall at once freely enure to the benefit of the United States, its public officers, merchants, and citizens." This Article evinces a desire to show the same favour to America as to the most favoured nation. Let us then, if America proceeds with us on a diametrically opposite principle, inform her that henceforward the XXX Article must be considered null and void, and hereafter should we make any concessions to other nations,

America will no longer be able to claim similar advantages.

(3) There are a considerable number of Americans employed in China at the present time; in mechanical industry and in manufacturing, as interpreters, as professors and teachers, as military or naval instructors, commanders of Chinese war-vessels, as captains and mates, as pilots and railway-men, and although their position is generally a very different one from that of the Chinese in the employment of Americans in America, they are equally employed or hired men. Let us then send the word through every Chinese province, that all such are to be discharged from their positions, that men of other nationalities are to be engaged in their stead; and that for the future no Americans are to be employed by Chinese. Let it be understood, however, that when the law prohibiting Chinese labour from going to America is abrogated, they will be re-engaged. Then they will blame their own Government for the loss of their situations, and all the world will say that the reprisal was a just one.

With regard to the bait held out to us that the anti-Chinese law will only hold good for a period of years, the consolation held out by such a promise is purely illusory. It is evident, as the Chinese emigrant population seeking the American shore are prepared to run the risk of wounds and death in their pursuit of their calling there, that it is bitter poverty, nay, sheer hunger, that drives them from their native land to cross the ocean. A man dying of hunger cannot wait for ten days for a meal; how then can he wait for months and years? Suppose I say to a starving man, "Bear your hunger this year, and next year I will give you a thousand bushels of rice;" or say to a beggar whose naked body is being nipped by the frost, "Bear the cold for this winter, and next year, I will give you a number of fox and other skins,"—would not the passers-by all laugh loudly at me? No, this bait should not beguile us. Both for the sake of the dignity of our country, and the protection of these poor emigrants, we should take a firm stand against this oppressive enactment of the U.S. Government against us.

The American state has been built up, not by war, but by agriculture and commerce. Since the time of Washington, few of the Presidents have been men of military renown, or ability, and the policy of America has been on the whole self-defence and not the extension of their domain by aggressive war on other countries. Their standing army is of little over 30,000 men; their navy, not more than 10,000 men, and about 20 powerful ships. The forts of New York, which defend her from the sea, are old-fashioned and armed with very ordinary cannon. America, compared with the aggressive countries England, France, Germany, and Russia, is like a gentle dog compared to tigers. Still suffering from the results of civil war, and hampered by the dangerous elements of Irish and Africans within her own borders, she is both unwilling and unable to wage an aggressive war abroad. America will never go to war with us on the emigrant question.

Let us then show a firm front in our negotiations with her, and remember that not only the dignity of our country is at stake, but the lives of hundreds of thousands of Chinese. The purse of public and private charity has had to be opened again and again for our poor agricultural population, suffering from repeated natural calamities. If their number is now to be suddenly swelled by the expulsion from foreign countries of those who have gone thither to try and pick up a living, what will the state of China be?

We should bear in mind, also, the feeling against Chinese emigration felt in Australia and other countries now. If we this year tamely submit to the terms which America would impose upon us, our submission will

be adduced as a precedent and we shall have to give in to their propositions as well.

I advance these opinions of mine with deference; far from laying claims to teach my countrymen on the subject, I acknowledge that I am as one who looks at the starry skies through a tube, or tries to measure the sea with a spoon; but the importance of the question to China has impelled me to submit to the wiser judgment of others the crude results of my poor experience and meditation.

THE TIEN-TSIN-TANGKU RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A serious collision took place on Monday night, the 25th ult. at about 8.30, on the China Railway, on the Tientsin-Tangku section, between the down train (No. 11), driven by Jarvis, and the up train (No. 6) driven by Dawson. Jarvis, after waiting about two hours at Chun-liang-chêng, where standing orders enforce the detention of all trains until trains going in the opposite direction have entered the station and come to a standstill, announced his intention of going on. The station master, brakeman, and guard (natives) remonstrated, but he paid no heed to them. He left the station, and after passing the flood-opening between Chun-liang-chêng and Sin-ho collided with the up train, which was a heavy one. The up train left Tang-ku at 8.10 p.m., and was going slowly, the driver blowing his whistle at intervals to apprise gatekeepers of the train's approach. When the trains collided the foreign passengers in the up train thought they had struck a gate, or that a stone was on the rail. About a minute or two afterwards the driver (Dawson) came to the first-class compartment and asked the gentlemen to come to his assistance. Capt. McClure, Mr. Lees, and Mr. Stevenson left with him, and worked with good will, doing their utmost to render assistance. The driver said, seeing a glare of light ahead, he immediately applied the brake and reversed his engine, and while leaning out as far as possible to see what was on the line, the collision took place, throwing him about thirty feet from the engine, but beyond receiving a shaking he was uninjured. The engine of the down train had no lamp, or he would have seen it some distance away. He had seen the approaching train but a short distance ahead, and only had time to reverse his engine, which must have been nearly at a standstill when struck. Three coal waggons immediately behind his engine were piled up on top of it. The escape of the driver was miraculous, as both firemen were injured, one so seriously that he died the following morning; the other has quite recovered.

A few minutes after the collision the carriages that were heaped together behind engine No. 11 caught fire, from what cause is not known. The carriages were furnished with patent lamps, which have never been known to ignite in accidents, and it is supposed that, being a cold night and having waited a long time at Chun-liang-chêng, the passengers had lit one of their portable stoves on the floor of the carriage (a very prevalent and most reprehensible practice which the guards have done their utmost to stop), and that the burning charcoal becoming scattered among the miscellaneous and inflammable luggage which the Chinese invariably carry, ignited, and soon set the first wrecked carriage and then three others, in one of which were some empty samshu cases, in a blaze. From two of the carriages burnt twenty-eight passengers, two brakemen, and one guard must have escaped alive. The other occupants were probably killed before they were burnt, the charred bodies dropping through the bottoms of the carriages. One Chinaman was lying dead by the side of the permanent way. One of his feet was burnt off, so that he had probably been taken from one of the burning carriages. One injured passenger was taken to Tangku,

where he died. It was blowing a strong N.W. gale at the time, which of course assisted in the rapid burning of the cars. The Chinese guard of the down train stated to one of the foreigners that he urged Jarvis not to leave the Chun-liang-ch'eng station, but he swore at him, blew three whistles, and started. He also said Jarvis was the worse for drink. Jarvis was found face downwards on his engine; his two stokers were, comparatively speaking, uninjured. Jarvis seemed dazed, and after walking a few paces fell, and was carried by the foreigners and some Chinese to the passenger car of the up train. Some little time afterwards one of the foreigners asked:—"Well, Jarvis, how do you feel?" He replied, "Oh, I don't feel so bad; I shall soon be all right," but in about two hours after that he died. On the train reaching Tang-ku some one went to assist him from the carriage, but he was found to be quite dead, sitting upright with his eyes wide open. He had previously complained of pains in the chest.

The driver, Dawson, shortly after rescuing his two firemen from the wreck of the engine, sent messengers to two of the foreign officials, one of whom, with two medical students, arrived from Tang-ku at the scene of the disaster shortly after eleven o'clock. Dawson behaved in a most admirable manner, doing his utmost, notwithstanding his severe shaking, to rescue the injured. As soon as the fire was got under, the dead bodies were counted, and it was found that five Chinese had been burnt, which, with the one who died in Tangku and the one taken from the wreck, makes a total of seven passengers, one fireman, and one foreign driver. After doing all that could be done, and taking on board the wounded who had been carried to a house near the bridge, and the passengers who had left the train, they started for Tang-ku, which was reached at 2.30, and where the sufferers were most kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Watson.

The Railway staff deserve great credit for the coolness and energy they displayed on the occasion, more especially the driver Dawson, who by his courage and prompt action, averted a greater loss of life, and who by his energy saved the lives of several of those rescued.

The up train had nine foreigners, including three children, and over one hundred Chinese, some of them students en route to Peking to attend the examinations.

The whole of the passengers were very cool and quiet, and from their appearance and conduct no one would have imagined anything serious had occurred.

The engine No. 6 is so badly smashed that she may never work again. Engine No. 11 can be repaired at a cost of £500. The permanent way was damaged for about 30 yards, but everything was cleared and the track repaired by eight o'clock on Wednesday morning.

The trains have not been able to keep time lately owing to the bad water which renders it difficult to keep steam, and on Monday night the up train, which was an exceptionally heavy one with coal wagons, had been kept back by the gale which was blowing all day. Hence the long detention of the down train at the siding at Chun-liang-ch'eng.

The Railway officials and Engineers have shown the utmost energy in minimising the effects of the accident, first in attending to the killed and injured, and in clearing and repairing the line which, by working night and day, was ready for traffic on Wednesday morning, when the native passengers to the number of about 100, took their tickets in the usual way as if nothing had happened.

Unfortunately as the accident has been, it might have been worse, for if the up train had suffered as much as the down train many of the students on the way to Peking for the literary examinations would have

been injured, which would have made a bad impression in the capital.—*Chinese Times.*

NOTES FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

At Lin-an Hien, in the Hangchow Prefecture, Ch'ekiang, seven men concerned in an abortive attempt at rebellion were beheaded on the parade-ground on 30th March, in presence of several thousand spectators. Ten more are in custody. One man protested his innocence to the last.

P'ien, the Viceroy of Fukien and Ch'ekiang, has issued a paternal manifesto to the Foochow people which appears at full length in the *Shên Pao*. There are four abuses which he informs them he will do his best to uproot from among them; the practice of litigation, the drowning of female infants, the disposal of the dead by cremation, and the assembling of men and women together for idolatrous processions. He says nothing about enforced sutteeism.

Mr. Moh, who was District Magistrate of Shanghai until about two years ago, is dead. He held the post of Prefect of Tai-ts'ang-chow, under the Taotai of Shanghai.

The Taotai of Amoy has ordered that the streets of that city receive a thorough cleaning at the beginning of this April. They are said to be in a fearful state from the practice of keeping pigs, nearly every one in the city keeping a few in the streets.

Tigers are a terror to the natives in the mountain country near Amoy. Last autumn the chief of the Tak-kee hong (Mr. R. Bruce, of Messrs. Tait & Co.'s) killed one weighing over 200 lbs.; and another time when he was out shooting he unexpectedly came right upon a tiger, which gave a roar that shook the trees. He fled, and it is said has not since "ventured into a tiger's den to steal its whelps." The other members of the hong also emulate Fung Fu, the tiger-catcher, mentioned in *Mencius*; on 24th March one of them captured a young tiger, weighing a little over 10 cattie. The doughty bravo Wu Sung, of the historical romance of the Shui Hu Chwan, runs a danger of having his fame eclipsed by the exploits of these English gentlemen at Amoy.—*Shên Pao*.

The Provincial Judge of Chihli, Chow, who originally signed the contract with M. Thévenet for the dock at Port Arthur the completion of which has proved so difficult, was ordered by the Viceroy Li Hung-chang to proceed to Port Arthur to hold an inspection of the works and report to the Viceroy at Tientsin. On 22nd April he returned to Taku in the war-vessel *Chên-hai*, proceeded from Taku to Tientsin in a vessel of lighter draught, interviewed the Viceroy and presented his Report. He then returned to Pao-ting Fu, the provincial capital of Chihli. Admiral Ting Yü-ting, (who only a few months ago attained the full rank of Admiral), on 27th April saw the Viceroy and reported on his cruise to Hongkong, Swatow, Amoy, and Shanghai with his iron-clad squadron. The iron-clads *Ting-yüan* and *Chên-yüan*, with the *Tsü-yüan* and *Ts'ing-yüan*, accompanied him from Shanghai to Taku. The Admiral is staying, as before, at Lao Shun-kee's hong.—*Hu Pao*.

The *Hu Pao* quotes from a Californian paper an article on the straits to which the grape-growers of Southern California will be reduced if they are unable to get Chinese labour to collect their harvest. The climate there, ranging in summer occasionally from 115 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade to 130 in the sun, is too hot for white labour, but suits the Chinese, who are generally from tropical China. There is also a difficulty in getting white men to go there to obtain work of such a temporary nature, only lasting about two months a year. The *Hu Pao* thinks the Americans will have to repeal the anti-Chinese acts in their own interests.

The foreign mining engineer sent by the Chinese Government to Mongolia reports favourably of the prospects of silver mining in the part of the country which he has inspected. A quantity of mixed silver and lead ore has been extracted, a small crushing-mill has been erected, and a smelting apparatus will soon be brought thither. There are ten foreigners and 200 Chinese employed at these mines up to date.—*Hu Pao*.

On 30th March S'an Yü, Governor of the province of Kweichow, memorialised the Throne on the backwardness of the other provinces in sending their contributions to the treasury of this unfortunate province, which is too poor to support itself without such assistance. They now owe it about Tls. 2,000,000. The Kweichow treasury is in such straits, that it may be compared to a man whose eyebrows are on fire, and prompt relief is as necessary in the one case as in the other.

On 21st March the President of the Board of Revenue and the comptroller of the Imperial Household at Peking, who have been discussing the cost of restoring the Tai-ho Gate, came to the conclusion that the sum of Tls. 2,300,000 would be required. Whether the assistance of the Provincial Governments will be called for to raise some of this money, is not yet known. The wood contractors are, it is said, sending agents to Kiangsu, Ch'ekiang, Kiangsi and other provinces to procure the wood.

In March the Tsung-li Yamén gave orders that the subsidy to the *Kiang-chi*, running regularly to Corea by orders of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang, be paid every three months, the subsidy being made up as follows; from the Shanghai Customs, out of duty on cargo for Corea, Tls. 2,400, and from the Chefoo Customs, from the same sources, Tls. 600.

At the suggestion of Chang, Governor of Shantung, *likin* on grain conveyed from other provinces into his will not be charged until after the autumn harvest. This is on account of the bad harvest last year.

We have received the following additional account of the recent disaster on the Tientsin Railway. The train from Tientsin had only one foreigner on board, ordinarily called by the natives "Ta Pi-tsz" (large nose). He died of the injuries which he received. On the Tientsin train was also a Chinese engineman commonly called Ah Shung. His real name does not seem to be known. When the train reached Kün-liang Ch'eng (Chun-liang Ch'eng) it should have waited, but no train being seen for a long time advancing from the opposite direction, and there being no telegraph to announce the departure of such a train, the foreign engine-driver impatiently ordered a start. He was already excited when at Chun-liang Ch'eng, and when Ah Shang pointed out the train coming to meet them in the distance (this was at Sin Ho,) he took no notice. Ah Shang quickly hung out a red light, seeing which the advancing train began to slow down, and blew her whistle. The Tientsin train, however, rushed on at the same pace, and Ah Shang seeing the imminence of the danger, ran to turn off the steam; but the foreigner struck him a violent blow on the back of the hand which prevented him from effecting his purpose. Ah Shang then seeing all was over, jumped from the train to save his own life, and was dreadfully cut about the mouth and stunned for some time by the fall. A Chinese stoker called Ma Luh stuck to the other train with great gallantry after the other people had jumped off it, (it having stopped) and received injuries in the head of which he very soon died. The poor fellow had only been married three days.

The allowing of the Tientsin train to go on from the Kün-liang-ch'eng station before any news was known of the P'ang-ku train, was a fatal breach of regulation, for which the station master is responsible. Chow, Director-in-Chief of Railways, who is the

Provincial Judge of Chihli and the Taotai Wu, who is also a Director, on 30th March, on the former's return from Port Arthur, commenced a judicial enquiry into the conduct of this station master, who then appeared before them.

Two weird stories are current with regard to the accident, and superstitiously believed by quite a number of the people. It is said that after the calamity, in the dead of the night, the T'ang-ku people heard the piteous wailing of the spirits of the dead which had been forced from their earthly habitations with such awful suddenness; the cries rose and fell, sounding sometimes near and sometimes far away, as if the *manes* were hovering through the air looking for a place of refuge. The people lay awake listening to this wailing, sometimes abruptly broken off and sometimes long and piercing, and their hair stood on end with fear. The other story is, that at a station called Ch'ang-kiang a railway watcher named Yang while going his rounds, chanced to look up at the bright moon and stars, and saw a ghostly train, hurrying on at full speed, stop, and then fade from his view. This was far from the scene of the accident, in a remote and lonely spot with no one living near. There were some trucks standing in a siding, but he found they had not moved an inch.

About Jehol (and in Mongolia generally it is supposed) traffic was stopped in the middle of March by deep snow. At Jehol it lay 4 or 5 feet deep. Many cattle were killed by the cold.—*Shen Pao*

Hitherto there have been fixed regulations by which the houses and lands of Chinese in the interior may be sold to foreigners for the establishment of Christian chapels; but in spite of this, instances of clandestine or unauthorised transfers have not been rare, owing to the people's ignorance. The two District Magistrates of Kiang-tu and Kan-t'üan, the two districts forming the prefectural City of Yangchow, in Kiangsu Province, have now issued a Proclamation on the subject, in which they quote the Treaty. This Proclamation reminds the people that when foreigners desire to buy land in the interior in order to found chapels, the owner of the land must first report to the local authorities, who will, provided that the *feng-shui* of the neighbouring inhabitants be not injuriously affected by the proposed chapel, authorise the sale of the land for its erection if all be in order, for which sale there must be a deed drawn up in proper form. According to this proper form, the land is transferred "for the purposes of a Roman Catholic chapel for the community," and not to any person 紫爲 (*wei yeh*) "to have as his private property." [By the VI Article of the Convention of 1860, it is "permitted to French Missionaries to rent and purchase land in all the provinces, and to erect buildings thereon at pleasure."] For many years this method, which is in accordance with Treaty, has been followed, and T'an, a former District Magistrate, obtained the express consent of the High Authorities to its being used. There are now-a-days, however, great numbers of Roman Catholic chapels being established, but the number of landowners who come forward to report their intention to sell land for such a purpose is very small. A Buddhist priest named Pao Hua, and two men called Chang Siao-chên and Chang Shou-mei, had each land to transfer for chapel purposes, and the first indication given to the authorities came in every case from the Missionaries, who came to pay the land-tax. In the above instances, the natives mentioned have had to give bonds that the *feng-shui* shall not be injured; but to prevent similar irregularities, all landowners and brokers are warned that persons committing such will be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law.

In consequence of the recent railway accident at Tientsin, the Viceroy Li Hung-

chang has ordered that Ng Choy, the Managing-Director, is to have three marks of gross error, or "black marks," set down in his record (which will be a bar to his obtaining lucrative appointments for some time); and that Yang Koo-shan, Director, and Yen Yu-fang, Director, both of whom are Taotais, have each two similar marks set against his name. The dead are to be buried at the public expense, and the relations of each to receive 300 thousands of cash, or nearly \$300. Fifteen bodies have been found, and consequently 4,500 thousands of cash have been paid to relatives, but there may have been more people killed, one account giving the number as 20. The faults of several people united to immediately produce this fatal accident; the fault of the foreign driver of the Tientsin train, who was not in a fit state to drive it; the fault of those who delayed the other train so long; and that of another foreign engineer, who just as a train was going to start from T'ang-ku, having injured his hand with a cartridge, left a passenger train to take care of itself, and returned to Tientsin on an engine to have his injury medically treated. The first of these is dead, and the last will perhaps be discharged.

Major Wang, who on his return from studying the military art in Germany, assumed command of the first battalion of the Viceroy's troops at Tientsin, on 30th March took advantage of the presence of Admiral Ting of the Pei-yang squadron, to invite him, and several Chinese and foreign civil and military officials, to witness a review of the forces under his command. They are now drilled in the German fashion, and include a battery of horse artillery and four mountain guns.—*Shen Pao*.

At Wu-chang Fu, the Capital of Hupeh, inside the P'ing-hu Gate, at Ts'ung-wên-t's'ih P'u, a certain cloth-merchant lately died, leaving his son married to a native banker's daughter. The cloth-merchant's business fell off very rapidly after his death, but the banker grew richer and richer; and so that his daughter and son-in-law might be properly started in life, he obtained for the latter a situation in another cloth-shop, deposited several hundreds of taels in the business, and arranged that unless he committed some gross mistake his situation should be a permanency. The mother of the young man, however, lost to all sense of gratitude to her benefactor, as soon as the young wife was brought to her new home, united with her own daughter in oppressing the poor young woman; and on the 23rd March, it is not known for what cause, they beat her cruelly with nailed Chinese boots and completed the horrible work by strangling her with ropes. The cruel sister-in-law of the victim was betrothed to a Chinese doctor's son at the Ping-hu gate, and when he heard an account of the murder he ordered his chair, although it was late at night, fetched her away, and had her precipitately married to his son the next morning.

The next day the cruel mother-in-law sent a message to the father of her victim, to say that his daughter had suddenly died. When this news was brought to the good banker, he set off accompanied by his wife for the new home into which they had sent their unfortunate daughter. He heard a talking going on inside, and on entering suddenly saw the whole horrible reality before them.

The *Hu Pao*, from which journal we take this painful story, continues, with dreadful naïveté:—

For a time the parents feeling so sad that they cared not if they lived or died would listen to no words of palliation or regret, but were all for informing the mandarins and having an inquest held; but on the relations and friends dissuading him from this course, and proposing as a substitute a grand funeral, and penitential offerings to the spirit of the dead by her mother-in-law and sister-in-law, the banker

being a man of liberal and magnanimous ideas, forced himself to consent to this arrangement, though with many a groan. But now the doctor's wife raised an objection to her new daughter-in-law having to make such a confession of her wrong. This was too much for the neighbours, who were just going to the doctor's house to bind the young woman and bring her along, when the doctor, becoming alarmed, hastily sent her to assist at the propitiatory ceremony, in order to conciliate the public. When this was over, the banker and his wife returned home, with difficulty restraining their tears.

At a village near Ningpo there is a fisherman who fishes in the river to earn his rice. He is fifty years old, and had a wife, but she had never borne him a child. Last month he was out in his boat casting his net, when he heard the voice of an infant crying among the rushes of the bank, and on drawing near to see, found a baby boy wrapped up in a sort of nest of rushes. He at once knew that a child had died, and that its soul had come back to the world of man again and was inhabiting this little body. He took it home, and his wife fed it with soup and rice-water, when it soon ceased crying; and the old couple took such a fancy for the founding that they adopted him then and there as a son, giving him the name of *Shih-lai*, "the picked-up one."—*Hu Pao*.

Inw Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 10th April, 1889.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Acting Chief Justice.

POOTUNG DOCK CO. v. JAMES SIMPSON.

The hearing of the above case was resumed this morning.

Mr. H. S. WILKINSON and Mr. C. DOWDALL for the plaintiffs.

Mr. R. E. WAINWRIGHT for the defendants.

Mr. THOMAS W. KINGSMILL, sworn, and examined by Mr. DOWDALL, said—I am an Architect and Civil Engineer. I have been on and off practising as a Civil Engineer since my arrival in China in 1861. I have been engaged in a good many years at Chinkiang, in bunding and general conservancy works on the Yangtze-kiang. I have been engaged on it off and on since. I have done some ordinary bunding for the Municipal Council there. I had some rather troublesome bunding also to do for Messrs. Dent & Co. at the entrance to the Imperial Canal, and I have been consulted about the general flow of the river, and the prevention of damage thereby. I have been their consulting engineer all that time. I have done works down here and put in the heavy abutments for the present Garden Bridge. There was a good deal of cofferdam work about that work. I gave the designs for the two cofferdams to the contractor and they were carried out successfully. I put in a quantity of bunding at the entrance of the Sochow Creek, and I have also been engaged by the Provincial Government to survey and report on the Imperial Canal and the crossing of the Yellow River. I had a good deal of experience at home in laying foundations of buildings in treacherous soils. I helped in the plans for the Limerick Junction in Waterford which is on alluvial soil similar to that here. I knew the Pootung Dock since 1868. It was then five or six years old, and comparatively new. (Correcting himself) I think it was older than that, I think it was commenced in 1861 or 1862. I used frequently to go there, as the superintendent Capt. Bird was a particular personal friend of mine. That was in 1868. I did not go there professionally till last year when I was called

upon to go to see the dock. Part of it was opened up also when Mr. Twombly was putting in the concrete. I visited it professionally on the 26th Nov., '88, and I examined it twice in December and once on the 19th January, 1889. When I first went up this time I found the dock had been pumped dry and a cofferdam placed in position. The men were at work then. The concrete sill had been taken up and a good deal of the back of the entrance on each side was opened up, and one chase had been removed. I was able to form a very good idea as to how it stood before the repairs were commenced. It struck me that, generally speaking, the dock had been very much neglected. There was no sign of any accident having occurred. The wood-work all through above low water, where not constantly kept covered with water, was very much decayed indeed; the foot of the bunding all along the north side, and a considerable portion on the south side, had slipped out; the capping had sunk and was displaced very much indeed; the tie-back rods to the bunding in almost all cases were bent down very much, in some cases nearly double, so much so as to be useless; the wharfing in front of the bund was altogether displaced, hardly any of it being in proper position, and large portions of the planking were rotten or missing altogether. The bunding piles in a few cases were broken. The sheeting in front of the bunding piles was rotten. The earth behind the bund had slipped down or subsided, a good deal beyond the bars or tie-rods. A good deal of this subsidence seemed to have come about by the decay of the sheeting having allowed the water to wash in and out. Outside the north bund, for a portion of the way, there had been driven in a row of sheet piling subsequent to the building of the bund, as I supposed to strengthen it, by preventing the water washing through the sheeting. On the south bund there was older sheet piling inside the bunding. The piles I saw taken out from the north bunding measured from 26 to 28 feet. The piles of the pier head were represented to me to be 34 feet long. I think I measured them. The model (No. 11) produced does not correctly represent the bunding. The piles generally along the whole of the north bunding had slipped out considerably at the foot, all except the pier head which had stood pretty well. They stood at an angle of something under 80 degrees. The slipping varied from nothing at the dock-head to three feet in the piles. The top of the piles had probably slipped in a little. The slipping was caused by the piles not having a very good grip in the bank of the river, being too short, and the tie rods being badly placed. The washing of the water in and out, and there being no depth, increased the tendency of the foot to slip. The tenants certainly could have renewed the sheeting as it decayed in order to prevent the wash, and they should have removed the decayed portions of the piles, if not the whole. The flood tide strikes the north bund line, at an angle of about 35 degrees, and that keeps the entrance to the dock clear from silting up. If I found that the scour was washing away the bunding I would try and strengthen the latter. This scour had no effect on the bunding itself. The other docks in Shanghai are purposely put in places where there is a scour,—the Old Dock and Boyd's Dock. The most effectual remedy for the slipping of the bunding would be to drive longer piles outside and tie them back at a lower level. Finding a bunding at Chinkiang slipping in the same way, I adopted the precaution of pitching in a quantity of stone outside it. That was commenced about 12 years ago, and they still keep throwing in stones since, with the result that the slipping has been obviated, and the bund has not stirred. The slope of the river bed at Chinkiang is very much greater

than is the case at the Tung-ka-doo Dock, and the force of the river is also very much greater, there being also a very serious eddy current there. There always was a very strong scour along the bank near the Tung-ka-doo Dock which I don't think has increased of late years. On making a survey in 1875 for the French Consul I found that the opposite foreshore was making out into the river. The river has always a tendency to change its configuration unless it is prevented by artificial works, and the current changes with the configuration. I found the inside of the Dock very much neglected indeed, the bottom where it had been kept constantly moist was in very good condition indeed, but the sides were very bad; especially, the rows of stringers from the side of the dock upon which a good deal of the stability depends were all rotten, some of them completely. The waling pieces were in very bad order and considerably decayed, the altar piles were nearly all rotten, the two truss piles, against the dock head, were considerably decayed and very inefficient. The effect of their decay was that the counterbalance of the pressure of the water against the caisson was very much increased, and led to a tendency of the inner portion of the side of the entrance to move inwards. The chasing piles, I saw were a good deal decayed, and out of shape. All the sheeting about the inside of the entrance, and about the caisson was very much decayed, also a good deal of the sheeting of the back. The waling, or fenders, inside the caisson were also partly decayed, especially about the ends, which weakened their ability to withstand the pressure of the truss-piles. The effect of the ends of these being defective was that they did not act sufficiently as struts. There was no sign of accident inside the dock, nothing unforeseen or unavoidable. When a ship goes into the dock there would be certain "going" repairs from day to day, such as stopping leaks, making good blocks, etc. Then there would also be repairs to the fabric of the dock, renewal of decayed timbers. That would be the second class of repairs. (Handed Messrs. Farnham's account of detailed expenditure for repair of the dock.) I find, after deducting for the works they had agreed to, and over and above the Tls. 20,000, agreed upon, that there was from 1st July 1884, to end of January 1888, an expenditure of Tls 6,257.

The witness was then examined as to what items he would exclude from this estimate, and which left the balance above given. Continuing he said: This would give about Tls. 1,800 a year, which I should certainly not consider sufficient to spend upon repairs to the dock. I should say that Tls. 50 a month or perhaps less, would be quite sufficient for "going" repairs, including oakum, wedges, etc., connected with the opening and shutting of the dock. I would consider that 5 or 6 per cent. upon the cost of the wood-work of the dock would be a moderate sum to expend in keeping the dock up; namely about Tls. 4,000 a year. I certainly could not put it at less. I should say of that sum Tls. 1,500, or Tls. 1,600 would be for the inside of the dock. Looking at the dock in January, I should say that from five to six thousand taels was necessary to put the interior from the dock head into repair. Nothing was being done to the inside of the dock when I saw it in January. I found all the timbers of the sides of the entrance considerably decayed. The side planking was so much decayed as to allow the water to pass in and out of the chase piles. The joints were decayed and the holes were probably up to five or six inches in superficial area. The holes arose from the decay of the ends of the planks, and admitted water into the earth behind the sides. The decay was specially evident between the chase piles and an old cement bulkhead which had been erected behind. The water went round the back of the chase piles, and so found its way into the dock. The dock heads

were in very good position, that is to say they had not slipped. The chase piles were a good deal out of repair. All this was due to neglect. The tenants should certainly have kept the sheeting at the sides of the entrance watertight, so that water could not get in at the side; they ought also to have renewed the decayed portions of the side piles from time to time as they were found defective. They ought also to have dug out the ground behind the piling and ascertained where the leaks came from, and replaced it and had it well pounded down. In my opinion they ought to have attended to these things when they discovered that there was a leak into the dock. Such leaks would commence through a small portion of water making its way through an open joint, and as time went on it would go on increasing, if it was not attended to. All soil round Shanghai is more or less tender under the influence of water. Mud docks always have a tendency to leak if not kept in good order. There was no bursting. I would look upon an utter breakdown of the construction as a bursting. I think I would not call anything less than an utter breakdown a bursting. It struck me as extraordinary that the structure stood so well considering. There was no breakdown. The state of the dock was arrived at by little increments of neglect. The neglect was in not putting in new truss-piles, and not renewing the timbers in front so as effectually to keep the chase in a vertical position. If this had been done the dock would not have leaked, and there would have been no trouble in opening or shutting the dock. I understand that there was some little difficulty, a straining about the caisson, but I did not plumb the chase at the time. I did not see the caisson put in, but I believe the leaks could have been stopped. I have seen Messrs. Morrison and Gratton's specification and I think it is very carefully drawn.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT asked was it necessary to go into all these details now, after his Lordship's intimation?

His LORDSHIP said he had intimated that a surveyor on each side might decide what was for extra strength and what for ordinary repairs, but he understood that this had not been done.

Mr. WILKINSON said that looking at the evidence now he thought it would save time if they went on rather than keep the two things separate.

His LORDSHIP assented, and repeated his intimation that a surveyor on each side might very well have dealt with this portion of the case.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he would have to call several witnesses, nor could he now undertake to confine himself to one surveyor.

The examination of the witness was then proceeded with.

Witness—I did not there find anything unnecessary to put the dock into repair. If I had been called upon to put the dock into ordinary repair by the lessees, I would not have put in so much work. I made some notes, and roughly speaking, it would have cost for caisson works, on or immediately about the caisson chase, the sum of Tls. 4,500; and for the dockhead and works therewith connected, Tls. 6,000; for the bunding, I had down 150 feet which could hardly be put down at under Tls. 120 a *chang*, a very low amount which would mean Tls. 1,800 at the very least. Morrison and Gratton's specifications were I think for Tls. 32,000; the very least amount of work without including the interior of the dock I find would be Tls. 12,300. I should have reduced,—if I was acting for the lessees,—the amount by not making the chase piles stronger than they were before, and I should probably have made a saving on the bulkhead of the dock. The wharves, for which I did not estimate, were not included in the Tls. 12,300. They would have cost probably about Tls. 14 a foot run, to put them

in ordinary repair. This estimate was based upon the supposition that I was acting for the lessees and was anxious to make the amount for putting the dock into ordinary repair as small as possible but this is not a very elaborate calculation. [Handed the specification of Morrison & Gratton.] The new bunding south of entrance would have come to something less than Tls. 4,800. In my estimate of Tls. 12,300, I have not included all the items in the summary of Morrison & Gratton's estimate. I did not include the bunding south of drain, Tls. 800, and the groins, Tls. 1,000. There might possibly have been a saving of half. That Tls. 6,000 for bunding north of the entrance seems to me to be high. I cannot say whether this bunding is included in my rough calculation. Repair of bunding inside the caisson Tls. 1,000 is included, the godowns and wharves are not included. As to the saleable value of the dock, as it was before the repairs were commenced, and what it would have been if it had been kept in ordinary good repair, I should hesitate very much in recommending it to a purchaser, for I did not see it before the coffer dam was put in. The whole of the bunding nearly, on the south side and from the dock head up to the shears on the north required considerable repairs. For the works specified the estimates of Morrison and Gratton were very reasonable. There were about 170 feet of the lower bunding and about 100 feet of the upper both in pressing need of repairs, which at 12 taels a foot would cost Tls. 3,240. The bunding outside the drain was in need of repair, but in less urgent need. The 170 feet takes us down to the drain according to the plan. The lower wharf, for 180 feet, and the upper for about 75 feet were in pressing need of repair. I simply make my estimate on my recollection of the state of the dock, and I did not make it on the spot. I do not think it would have been necessary to spend more than Tls. 1,800 to 2,000 on the bunding outside the caisson. If the dock was in ordinary repair I should put its saleable value down at from Tls. 110,000 to Tls. 115,000. This concluded the direct examination of the witness.

Cross-examined by Mr. WAINSWRIGHT—When I saw it in November, I should have hesitated about its saleable value—about advising anyone to buy it at Tls. 50,000 before the works were commenced and in the condition I have every reason to believe it was then in. There is always a market for a dock in Shanghai, or for anything out of which a reasonable return can be had. A dock is not much use without a yard or works about it, but I think a syndicate or the Chinese government would buy it.

Mr. WAINSWRIGHT—You might get up a Land Investment Co. (Laughter.)

Cross-examination continued—I would advise Messrs. Boyd or Messrs. Farnham & Co. for instance to take it at Tls. 115,000, which I consider a reasonable price. A portion of my business is as land surveyor. I never was in a civil engineer's office in England or Ireland. Anybody is entitled to call himself a civil engineer or architect either, if he has the assurance to do so. I have been in contact with engineering works for a great many years. I served my time in Mr. Geo. Murray's office in Dublin, who built railway stations on three of the chief railways in Ireland. Before I came to China, I had no experience in mud docks, but I have had experience in laying foundations in mud, in alluvial soil. I have had practical knowledge since I came to China. The same rules apply to building foundations of houses in mud soils in England or Ireland as to building mud docks in China. None of my bunding in Chinkiang has ever given way. It was not my bunding at Chinkiang that required stones to be thrown in front of it. My piles at Chinkiang are 42 feet long, and from 16 to 18 feet in

the ground. The larger ones are 16 inches in diameter. This is the bunding I did for Dent & Co. The bund which I constructed for the Municipality in 1870 has never given way, but there is a continual heavy wash. The foundations for the heavy abutments of the Garden Bridge were in 11 feet of water at low water and they were laid with two caissons. There was nothing very difficult in it. I had experience in building another bridge, or a portion of a bridge at the mouth of the Szechow Creek. That went into the mud. There is a long stretch of foreshore in front of the German Consulate. There is not much scour there.

I did not look upon the bunding at the dock in 1868 as a good piece of work. I thought that the piling in the interior was not sufficient, the altars and stringers were not sufficiently good. I knew they were continually troubled with leaks or one thing or another. It struck me at the time that the whole arrangement was weak and that the bottom of the dock was not sufficiently strong. I had no idea then as to how the floor of the dock was constructed beyond a few conversations with Mr. Bird. My visits continued to the time Mr. Bird went away in 1869, and I practically saw nothing of the dock till Mr. Twombly was putting in some concrete in 1879 or 1880. I did not see very much then, beyond that the sill was out, and some concrete had been removed, as I did not visit the dock professionally. I do not know the present state of the dock. I have not seen it since 19th Jan. I do not know how far Mr. Morrison's bund has slipped down. I examined the concrete which had been taken up, it was made of California cement and stones. Some of it was very good, and some also very bad. I could form a very good idea as to the condition of the dock before the commencement of the repairs. There was nothing to lead me to form a judgment as to what the leaks under the floor of the dock were from. I concluded from what I saw that the leaks were local. There was a leak because the old bulkhead was not in the centre of the keel and a portion of it was exposed outside the caisson. It would have been easy to see the concrete by lifting up the floor of the dock. The concrete outside the caisson could have been examined by the aid of a diving bell, or some other arrangement which might easily have been made. I do not suppose there would have been anything to lead you to believe that the concrete was bad supposing there was no leak through the floor of the dock. Until the leak sprang there was nothing to indicate that the concrete was defective. I did not infer that the dock had been very much neglected, I saw that it had been, because there was so much rotten wood about the place, I saw rotten and decayed timbers everywhere.

The witness was then cross-examined as to the length of time he had spent examining the dock altogether and replied nine hours in all; One hour in Nov. 1888, twice three hours in Dec., and another two hours in January 1889.

Cross-examination continued—The timbers were utterly defective in appearance. He tested them with his eye, as he had no other means of judging. It was not within his experience that the ends of piles and timbers looked rotten where there was in reality simply a few inches rotten, when they were practically sound to all intents and purposes; but it was quite possible that the wood below a certain distance was quite sound. He was not prepared to say that anything more than the heads of the timbers were rotten. But he would say they were sufficiently decayed to be not in a state of repair. Externally they were rotten. There were a good many of the stringers snapped across, perhaps five or ten. There were seventy-five stringers on

each side. Five or ten were so far rotten that they had become disconnected.

To his Lordship—There might have been even more broken. I did not examine each one. I walked along the wharf, along the bunding. A good portion of the sheeting behind the bunding was exposed when I saw it. There was no reason for supposing that one portion of the sheeting was different from another,—in better order. (Shown a photograph of the Dock) The wharf was in a worse state than it is then, for some of it had been taken away. When I said some of the planks were missing, I meant that some had been taken away and others had dropped away. I could not say when I saw it in November how many planks had been taken away and how many had dropped away. Some of the earth behind the bunding had slipped away exposing the tie rods. I knew that there had been earth there because it was in parts covered with grass, some of it had been taken away. There was no mark of newness about it. There had been a washing away of the earth apparently through the crevices of the sheeting. The piling of the bunding had moved out, leaving spaces through which the ground slipped. I would say it was extremely improbable and incompatible with the appearance of the place, that some of the ground had been taken out six or twelve months before to ease the strain on the bunding. It looked as if it had slipped down. The upper bunding was in a very defective condition, both bundings were in a state of extreme disrepair. What I have been saying about extreme disrepair applies to the lower or north bunding. The tie rods were bent by the superincumbent weight put upon them by the slipping away of the bunding. The tie back piles must have given way, otherwise I cannot account for the slackness of some of the tie rods. The sinking of the earth caused the tie rods to bend, which was primarily caused by the washing away of the soil and its slipping out through the bunding. The tie rods were not sufficiently tied back, they had not sufficient resistance. It would have been possible for the tenants to prevent this if they took steps when the action first became apparent. It was not a sudden thing. It was gradual so far as I can make out. I came to this conclusion from my experience, and from what I saw on the spot. I cannot see anything that the tenants could have done before the piles began to slip out, and as long as they were in good order. As long as the bunding did not show signs of slipping there was nothing for the tenants to do. I cannot say whether any of the piles I saw were drawn from near the entrance. I think I measured them. I think they came from near the dock head; they were 34 feet long. I saw some other piles, 28 feet long which came from near the dock head. The piles from the lower bund were roughly squared piles. The piles from the dock head had been cut in two and were half square. The lower bund piles were somewhere about 9½ inches square.

The Court then adjourned.

Thursday, April 11th.

On the re-assembling of the Court this morning the cross-examination of Mr. THOMAS KINGSMILL by Mr. WAINSWRIGHT was resumed as follows:—I should say that the least length of the piles to be safe would be from 35 to 38 feet, on the lower bunding. I don't think there is very much difference between the two bunds. I should have made my piles 38 feet long if I was making this bunding. The tie rods were defectively placed, being tied back to the tie back piles not horizontally, but so as to make the strain come at a considerable angle. The upper tie rods were right, the lower tie rods were at an angle. The new arrangement of the tie rods as shown in plan (produced) is correct in principle. The old one (model produced) is defective. The

flood tide strikes the north bunding at an angle of about 35 degrees, notwithstanding the breakwater. The first of the flood does not strike the breakwater but the bund direct. When I spoke of an angle of 35 degrees it was with reference to the dock head and some 50 feet below it. The slipping in of the piles I do not attribute to the action of the river, but to the fact that they had not a sufficient body of earth at the foot. The appearance of the place and the uniformity of the slipping led me to believe that the slipping was a slow process.

The witness was pressed by Mr. Wainwright as to his reasons for believing that the process was a gradual one.

Witness—I should have to make you an engineer, to understand it, Mr. Wainwright.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT—I do not know that I should be any wiser then.

HIS LORDSHIP—It does not require anything to make an engineer, as I understand.

Cross-examination continued—The left bank has, I imagine, come out into the river somewhat. The right bank has a tendency to wash away. The river opposite the dock has certainly narrowed during the last ten or fifteen years, from high water line to high water line. I don't think in this particular instance the result of that would be to increase the force of the current. I think the volume of the water in the river is less than it used to be. I draw this conclusion from the outgrowth of the foreshore on either side and the consequent reduced capacity of the river, as a reservoir, and also from the currents opposite the Settlement being less strong than they formerly were. The deepening of the river, and the consequent increase of the channel, would account for the currents being less strong. The pressure on the caisson would vary from nothing at the top per square foot, to 8,000 lbs. per lineal foot to a thousand lbs. per square foot with a depth of 16 feet. I mean by a lineal foot a foot long and sixteen feet deep. The pressure would be the same on the bunding. The chase piles and the stock at the back have to stand the whole of the pressure on the caisson. The pressure of the water there would strengthen the structure there by relieving it of the outward pressure behind. It is impossible to keep a dock open without a scour. There is a scour at the Old Dock and at Boyd's New Dock. At Boyd's Old Dock there was no scour and consequently they had to dig it out frequently to keep it clean. I did not take into consideration whether the Harbour Master would give permission to pitch stones into the river at the dock. I cannot tell whether he would give permission. I knew that stones there would not injure the current of the river, and I would, myself, if I were conservator of the river, give permission to throw the stones in there. The upper chase piles were not rotten, but were decayed on the surface, I think there were three chase piles on the chase I saw, the upper chase. There were certainly not more than five. The truss piles were decayed. I call them truss piles because they took a considerable portion of the pressure from the caisson. The horizontal struts from the chase were decayed on the ends, the consequence of which was that the butting joints were not perfect, and though there was not a gap there was more freedom than was desirable. They could have been removed easily and new struts put in, without much difficulty, but it would have been expensive. The struts outside the chase piles were I think equally decayed with those inside. All the sheeting inside these struts was decayed. The only purpose this sheeting served was to keep up the earth behind. They did not let the earth come through. The docking of a ship generally causes some damage to the dock, by rubbing or bumping, against the sides. I have seen from fifty to a hundred ships docked from time to time. I have

had no experience in dock work, but in my calculation as to the amount necessary to keep the dock in repair, I went upon the average deterioration of timber. I think the Old Dock would take Tls. 5,000 a year to keep it in repair, as it has more timber, and perhaps the same for Boyd's New Dock. This amount of expenditure would probably not begin till twelve or fourteen years after the construction of the dock—till the timbers began to deteriorate. The holes in the planking were all below high water mark and above low water, the work beneath low water mark appearing fairly sound. All the planking and all the piles were showing signs of decay. I do not think this decay extended any great distance into the piles, which I do not think required renewal then; but the planking did require very considerable renewal. I consider that a considerable portion of the leakage came through the holes in these planks. Any water getting in behind through the planks, even though there was a large bulkhead to prevent it getting into the dock, would have been prejudicial and should have been stopped at once. I don't think that there was any neglect about the chase piles; their condition was the result of wear. I did not include a cofferdam in my rough estimate; a cofferdam would have cost about Tls. 4,000. I think the dock might have been repaired even without a cofferdam. They might have put down a temporary cofferdam or tarred canvas or some of the many expedients with which sailors are familiar, and stopped the leaks. So far as leaks under the bulkhead, coming up through the floor, are concerned, a cofferdam would have been necessary. I am not at all satisfied that there were any leaks under the bulkhead, I believe the leaks were over the bulkhead which did not come up to the floor. The ends of the caisson being curved and the outer bulkhead straight, there was an unprotected space through which I do not doubt the water passed, and went down through the floor and came up through the floor behind the caisson. I think that this could have been remedied without a cofferdam, in various ways. By letting down a temporary cofferdam, is one way, which I think, would have been effective. If there were leaks making their way beneath the bulkhead it would have been much more serious, and a cofferdam would have been necessary. Concrete at the corners of the bulkhead would have rather assisted the work of repairing. I could have replaced the struts inside the caisson chase without a cofferdam, by taking them away one at a time.

Re-examined by Mr. DOWDALL—I should not consider that my estimate of Tls. 12,300 would have put the dock in good repair, but it was the least sum, which if I had been acting for the lessees, would have put the dock into such repair that they would not be called upon to spend more money on it.

Mr. F. J. MARSHALL and Mr. JAMES BUCHANAN were afterwards examined on behalf of the plaintiffs, and the further hearing of the case was adjourned till Wednesday week for the attendance of an important witness who is ill.

Shanghai, 9th April.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Act. Chief Justice and J. C. HALL, Esq., Act. Assistant Judge.

Between the owners of the British steamship *Glamorganshire*, Williams, Master, (Defendants and Appellants), and the Captain, owners and crew of the American ship *Clarissa B. Carver*, (Plaintiffs and Respondents).

Judgment was delivered in this case to-day. Mr. R. E. WAINWRIGHT for the appellants, Mr. W. V. DRUMMOND for the respondents, His LORDSHIP in delivering judgment said:—This is an appeal by the owners of the s.s. *Glamorganshire* from a decision of H.M.'s Court for Japan, confirming the report of the Registrar and Merchants as to the amount of damages payable by the owners of that vessel

in respect of a collision near Kobé between her and the *Clarissa B. Carver*, in which the latter vessel was totally lost on the 7th June, 1885. The *Glamorganshire* was found solely to blame by the Court for Japan in a judgment pronounced on the 12th Oct., 1885. That judgment was affirmed in this Court on the 10th April, 1886. The enquiry before the Registrar in the Court below to ascertain the amount of damages, was held in July of the same year. His report was excepted to by the owners of the *Glamorganshire*, but it was affirmed, with one modification, by the Judge in October. An appeal from that decision was lodged, but not then prosecuted, presumably because the decision in this Court, confirming the decree in the principal suit, had itself been appealed against to the Privy Council. This latter appeal was not, however, brought on for hearing in the Privy Council till the 21st March, 1888, (eighteen months after the record had been received), when it was dismissed. The record of appeal on the question of damages was then prepared in the Court for Japan and was received here in September last, and the appeal itself was brought on for hearing last month. I have mentioned these facts, that it may be seen how and where the delay between the institution of the action and the present proceedings has arisen.

The petition of appeal of the owners of the *Glamorganshire* prays that the judgment of the Court below, confirming the Registrar's report, should be varied by amending the Report in three particulars, viz. (1) by reducing the value of the *Clarissa B. Carver* to \$35,000 Mexican dollars; (2) by reducing the rate of interest on the amounts allowed to 4 per cent.; and (3) by calculating the rate of exchange between the Mexican dollar and the U.S. gold dollar at 80 instead of 76.

I will deal with the two latter points first, as they can be shortly disposed of.

And, first, as to the rate of exchange. The Registrar converted the amount at which he fixed the value of the *Clarissa B. Carver* (viz. 41,264.24 gold dollars U.S. currency) into Mexican dollars at 76, that being the rate of the day when his report was made. When the claim was filed in June 1886, the Mexican dollar was worth 80 cents gold, and it was argued at the hearing of the exceptions before the Judge of the Court below that such rate, and not 76, should be the rate at which the conversion should be made. The learned Judge dealt with this point very simply and very effectively. He directed that the sums which had been allowed in gold should stand in gold: "how that," he added, "will work out at the time of payment, is a matter with which neither the Registrar nor the Court has at present anything to do." In this Court the appellants renewed their argument: their counsel contended that because the value of silver had fallen between the date of the claim and the date of the Report, and had further fallen greatly since then, they would be prejudiced if they had to pay in gold the amount in gold at which the ship had been valued by the Registrar, and they submitted that they should be required to pay only such a sum in Mexican dollars as would in June 1886 (when the claim was filed) have represented the amount in gold awarded. This would have been obviously to make the appellants gainers by the fall in exchange, and that at the expense of the respondents, who thus would not now get the amount which they had been declared entitled to. The point was very strenuously urged, but was practically abandoned next day. The learned Judge of the Court below, in making that modification in the Registrar's report, put the matter on the proper footing, and in my opinion on the only just footing, when he directed payment to the respondents in gold of the ascertained gold value of their ship; any other mode of procedure would have affected prejudicially one party or the other, according as silver rose or fell in the market.

Next, as to the rate of interest. It was admitted by counsel on both sides before the Registrar that European banks in Japan charged 8 per cent. on loans, and allowed 5 per cent. on fixed deposits; counsel for the *Glamorganshire* contended, however, that only 4 per cent., the statutory rate in England, was chargeable. The Registrar allowed 8 per cent., and the Judge confirmed it. The latter says, "I think that the case of *Ekins v. East India Co.* (1 Peere Williams 395) shows that

the Registrar had power to allow the rate of interest ruling here, and this was admitted to be 8 per cent." In this Court it was argued that we were bound by the 17th of our Admiralty Rules—which begins with these words, "In all cases the Court shall apply the English Law as administered in Admiralty Courts in England"—and that no higher rate could be allowed than the one allowed in the Admiralty Court at home, which is 4 per cent. I think it was also argued that such was the statutory rate. I am not aware of any statute which fixes a rate of interest in Admiralty causes of damage. There has been an invariable practice in the Court of Admiralty in England to allow interest (per Sir R. Phillimore in the *Northumbria*, L.R., 3 A. & E. at p.9., and see *Smith v. Kirby*, L.R., 1 Q.B.D., 131), and the rate usually allowed is 4 per cent., but there is no higher authority than the mere practice. It appears to me very doubtful whether a practice on that point which must have had its origin in and must depend upon monetary conditions in England, can be considered as part of "English Law" to be applied here without regard to the conditions of things here; for interest is given by way of compensation for the non-payment of the damages at the time when they become due, and the measure of such compensation as would be and is fair in England is not necessarily the same anywhere out of England. But apart from this consideration, there is another sufficient answer to the contention. This Court in the exercise of its original jurisdiction in Admiralty has hitherto always, and without exception ever being taken, allowed 8 per cent., on the ground that that rate fairly represented the value of money here. It would be impossible, therefore, for me now to say that a rate which has been uniformly allowed in original Admiralty causes in the Court, should not apply to appellate causes, when the conditions here and the conditions in the place whence the appeal comes, are, so far as the determining considerations are concerned, identical. Only a decision of the Privy Council can now make the rate to be allowed on the Admiralty side of this Court the same as that allowed in the Admiralty Court in England. (To prevent a possible misconception, however, I will say here what I observed at the hearing: it may be a question whether as much as 8 per cent. should continue to be allowed here in future, for if the value of money here has latterly decreased, there would be no justification for retaining that high rate.)

I come now to the remaining point—the value of the ship. This is always a difficult question, and here the difficulty is greatly increased from the extreme paucity of the evidence on the subject—a circumstance more than once referred to in the report of the Registrar. He and the merchants by whom he was assisted, arrived at their estimate of value in the following way:—They found as a fact that the original cost of the vessel in July 1876, when she was completed, was \$80,000 U.S. gold. Making the same deduction for depreciation during the first five years of her life that Dr. Lushington made in 1862 in the case of the steamship *Arazes*, they struck off one-sixth of that sum; and for the remaining 4½ years they deducted 8% year by year, this being the estimate given by one of the appellants' witnesses. They thus arrived at an amount of \$45,849 as "an approximate valuation of the ship as deducible from her first cost and subsequent depreciation." From that sum they deducted 10 per cent as a fair allowance to make for the fall in value of American ships since 1876, and so obtained as her probable net value at the end of the voyage on which she was lost, \$41,264.24 U.S. gold.

The learned Judge dealt with the Registrar's report on that point thus: After expressing the opinion that there was sufficient evidence to support the finding as to the first cost of the vessel, he went on to say—"With regard to the other objections to the report, it is to be remembered that the petitioners must satisfy me that the Registrar's conclusions are clearly wrong. This they have not done."

With regard to the value of the ship being reckoned at her market value upon the termination of her voyage, I am of opinion that under the circumstances of the case this was a proper method of computing her value; and the petitioners have not satisfied me that the Registrar and merchants arrived at a wrong

value. As to the rate for depreciation, I am not satisfied that the Registrar was wrong."

After very anxious consideration given to the matter, I have come to the conclusion not to disturb the finding of the Registrar and merchants, confirmed, as it is, by the learned Judge of the Court below. No doubt—as is pointed out by Dr. Lushington in the case of the *Black Prince* (Lush. at p. 572)—when a right of appeal exists, it is the duty of the Court to pass an independent judgment upon the case submitted to it, but—as is observed by the same Judge in the case of the *Iron-master* (Swab. at 443)—"It is well-known that the Court will never over-rule a report of the Registrar and Merchants without being perfectly satisfied that upon the evidence which it is its duty to take into consideration, the report ought not to be maintained." At one time I confess I thought that upon the evidence the report could not be maintained. The Registrar and Merchants had, in the absence of any evidence corroborative of the estimate of value given by the master and part-owner of the sunken vessel—viz. that had she completed her last voyage, her value would have been \$60,000 U.S. gold—necessarily fallen back upon the only other evidence in the case, that adduced by the appellants. Of their two witnesses, who were both disinterested, the one to whose evidence the Registrar and Merchants attached the greatest weight, was Captain Walker. This gentleman gave his opinion that in the case of such a vessel as the *Carrer* was described to him to be, 6 per cent. per annum would be a fair amount to write off for depreciation for the first 3 years, and from 8 to 8½ per cent. for the remainder of the term. He further named \$35,000 as "a very fair outside estimate" (apart from full of market value of shipping) "of the value of a ship of her class that had cost \$80,000 nine years before." It appeared to me at first that if the Registrar and Merchants had adopted either of these bases for their valuation, no objection could have been taken; what they did, however, was to select one basis, adopt it in part only, and then import something else into the case *ab extra*. Here I had difficulty in following them. If, it occurred to me, Capt. Walker was a safe guide in the matter of the depreciation during the latter period, I did not see on what principle, his evidence should, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, be rejected as to the earlier portion of the time. And this view seemed to me to derive confirmation from the language used by the Judges in many of the reported cases, but after a further search among the authorities, I came upon a very recent one which answered my objection. I refer to the *Bernina*, tried in December 1886 before the President of the Probate Division, and reported in 6 Asp. Mar. Law Cases p. 65. In that case the plaintiffs had given evidence of damage to cargo to the extent of £107 16s. 6d., but the Registrar had, although there was no evidence whatever given by the defendants in contradiction of the plaintiffs' proof of damage, reduced the amount claimed to £52 10s. Objection was taken by the plaintiffs to that reduction on the ground that it was entirely arbitrary and unsupported, and that it was not justified by the evidence. On the argument before the learned President, it was argued for the plaintiffs that "the Registrar had no right to reduce the plaintiffs' claim for damage to cargo; he was bound by the uncontradicted evidence of the plaintiffs, and yet he has in fact utterly disregarded it." For the defendants it was argued that the Registrar was entitled to attach such weight to the plaintiffs' evidence as to the damage to cargo as he might think fit, and that he and the merchants were in the position of a jury, and were justified in bringing their own experience to bear upon the matter. Sir James Hannen said, in giving judgment on that part of the case, "On questions of value the Registrar and Merchants are entitled to use their own knowledge and experience, and they are not bound hard and fast by the evidence, whether verbal or on affidavit, of any particular witness. . . . As to the damage to the cargo, while the affidavit puts the damage at a very high figure, the Registrar and Merchants using their own experience, have reduced the amount by 15 per cent. They have treated the coal as deteriorated, but have not accepted the estimate of deterioration put on it by a particular witness. On these points I shall not interfere with their discretion." Follow-

ing this very recent authority, I shall not interfere with the discretion of the Registrar and Merchants here; they have reported that in their judgment the rate of depreciation given by Captain Walker for the first few years was too high, and they found what they considered a fairer rate in the rate allowed by Dr. Lushington in the *Arazes*. The same rule applies, of course, to their estimate of 10 per cent. for fall in market value of American shipping. That, moreover, is a matter on which they are obviously far better able to form a correct estimate than I am.

I need say very little on the question of the original cost of the *Carrer*, which was the basis of the calculation by which her value was arrived at. The Registrar and Merchants found as a fact, upon the evidence of her master and part-owner, Captain Dow, and upon certain affidavits filed in support, that she had cost \$80,000 U. S. gold to build. The learned Judge of the Court below thought that the affidavits ought not to have been admitted, but he held that the evidence of Captain Dow proved all that was necessary to support the finding of the Registrar and Merchants on that point. If it were necessary to decide the point, I should be disposed to hold that the affidavits were rightly admitted before the Registrar, but I think it sufficient to say that a finding of fact by two tribunals on a question on which what evidence there was, was all the one way, cannot be here set aside.

In the result, then, I confirm the judgment of the Court below, and dismiss the appeal, and I think I must do so with costs. Had the appeal been only as to the value of the ship, I should have been inclined to follow Dr. Lushington's example in the case of the *Clyde* (Swabey at p. 27), and leave each party to pay his own costs, on the grounds which there influenced him—viz. that he had entertained a doubt, and had taken some time to deliberate in his own mind before he came to the conclusion at which he had arrived. But there were two other subjects of appeal here—rate of exchange and rate of interest—which in my opinion were hardly arguable. The appellant having failed throughout, I must give the respondents their costs.

Mr. J. C. HALL, Acting Assistant Judge, said—This is an appeal from a decision of this Judge of the Court for Japan, confirming a Report, made by me in July 1886 as Registrar of that Court, wherein, assisted by merchants, I assessed the amount of damages payable by the owners of the *Glamorganshire* to the owners, master and crew of the *Clarissa B. Carrer*, consequent on the loss of the latter ship by collision. In that Report the value of the ship was found to be \$39,757.92, U.S. gold and interest was allowed at 8 per cent.

Three objections were taken in the Court below by Counsel for the Defendants, the present appellants, to the Report: first, that the value of the ship had been fixed too high and should have been only \$35,000; second, that the rate of interest allowed was too high and should have been only 4 per cent; and third, that the rate of exchange taken in the schedule for the conversion of U. S. Gold into Mexican dollars was not the proper rate; and that a different rate, either that ruling at date of collision or at date of claim brought, should have been taken.

On the hearing of these objections the Judge confirmed the report as to the value of the ship and the rate of interest and as to the question of exchange, he ordered that the items allowed in U. S. Gold should be confirmed in gold and those allowed in Mexican Silver dollars confirmed in silver.

It is against that decision that the present appeal is brought. In the petition, the grounds of appeal alleged are the three above-mentioned objections, "and the further ground that the Registrar's Report was made in Mexican dollars and not in gold."

I shall deal with this so-called "further ground" first. In so far as it may be allowed to pass as a correct statement, it amounts, at most, to a mere technicality, of too trivial significance to furnish a reasonable ground for appealing; especially after the learned Judge in the Court below had effectually disposed of it by ordering that the amounts stated in the Report in gold should be confirmed in gold and those stated in silver confirmed in silver. But to what extent is it correct to say that the Report "was made in Mexican dollars and not in gold?" The negative clause of that statement seems to me to be untenable.

On referring to the Report itself I find that the value of the ship is stated in U.S. gold only, and not in Mexican dollars: and the same is true of the other three items claimed and allowed in gold, namely, the stores and spare equipment, the freight, and the masters' effects. And in the schedule annexed to the Report, shewing in summary the heads of claim and amounts allowed in and by the Report, I find that the values of each of these four items are stated and allowed in U.S. gold and not in Mexican dollars.

This "further ground" for bringing the present appeal is therefore only partially correct in point of fact; and, in so far as it is true, it cannot, it appears to me, be distinguished in point of argument from the third objection to the Report, namely, that relating to the rate of exchange as mentioned in the Schedule. That the question of the rate of exchange is not, in my opinion, a substantial ground of appeal I have already intimated in saying that it was effectually disposed of by the order of the Judge in the Court below; and in the course of the argument before us this view of the matter was at length admitted by Counsel for the appellants to be correct.

There are, in reality, therefore, only two subjects of appeal to be dealt with, the value of the ship and the rate of interest.

In support of the contention that the value of the ship was fixed too high, four grounds are set forth in the petition of appeal. The first is that certain evidence, to wit, three affidavits sworn in the United States by the builder and three other persons acquainted with the ship, was improperly admitted. This objection however, even if allowed, as it was in the Court below, does not carry much weight, inasmuch as the fact proved by the affidavits, viz., the first cost of the ship, was sufficient proof without them by the evidence of Leroy Dow. The second ground was expressly abandoned in this Court by the appellants' Counsel and therefore need not now be considered. The third ground takes exception to the calculation as being based on the probable value of the ship at the end of the voyage, "irrespective of her value at the time of the collision when from the evidence she would have been worth much less." That the proper date was the end of the voyage for which she was freighted does not seem open to doubt, in view of the dictum of Sir R. Phillimore in the case of *the Northumbria* L. R. 3 A. 1 E. 612 which has been followed in cases since. No doubt the value of the *Carrer* would have been considerably less in Japan at the time of the collision than in New York at the end of the voyage; but, even apart from the authorities just cited the principle of *restitutio in integrum* required that place no less than time should be taken into account in estimating the market value of the ship. The fourth ground is that the reductions of 1/6 for depreciation in five years and of ten per cent. for fall in market between 1876 and 1885 are insufficient. On this head I shall merely remark that neither the arguments used nor the authorities cited to us by the appellants' counsel seem to me to go beyond raising a doubt, they do not make out even a *prima facie* case for opening the Report.

There remains, then, the question of the rate of interest. As it was admitted at the reference that 8 per cent. was the usual rate charged by banks at Yokohama for the loan of money on good security, any lower rate would not have put the owners of the sunken ship in as good a position as they were in before the loss.

On these grounds I am of opinion that the appeal should be dismissed with costs.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 8th April, 1889.

Before J. C. HALL, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

GEO. J. NELSON, s.s. *Sussex*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting the police in Broadway the previous evening. The evidence was to the effect that Constable Redderson, 20, met the prisoner, who was coming along shouting in a disorderly manner, and without any

apparent reason, he struck the officer in the face with his fist. He was then taken into custody, when one of his shipmates attempted to rescue him. A native constable and an Indian sergeant went to the other constable's assistance, and they held the prisoner down till they were further re-enforced by some other Indian and Chinese constables the prisoner all the time being very violent. While he was on the ground he kicked constable Redderson in the stomach, and the constable had to draw his truncheon to defend himself against one of the prisoner's shipmates till the Indian sergeant took him away. The prisoner was eventually put into a *richa* and taken to the Station.

The prisoner said in reply to his Worship that he had nothing to say.

Corroborative evidence was given by the Indian Sergeant No. 84, who said that the prisoner's shipmate twisted witness's hand when he took him away from interfering with the European constable.

His Worship asked why the other two men mentioned were not arrested?

Inspector WILSON said the Police heard nothing of the attempted rescue till after the men had left the station when the last witness said one of them had assaulted him.

His Worship commented on the seriousness of the offence of attempting to rescue a prisoner and said that the two men had reason to thank the magnanimity of the police in letting them off so easily.

Native Constable 267 also gave corroborative evidence as to the violence of the prisoner.

The prisoner said he was drunk at the time and did not know what he was doing.

His Worship sentenced him to a month's imprisonment.

Chief Inspector CAMERON said that he would like to charge the other two men, who were in Court, with attempting to rescue Nelson, and one of the men was accordingly placed in the dock, but upon his Worship suggesting the advisability of the police speaking to the men first, and seeing if they would apologise, and express sorrow for what they had done, the charge was not proceeded with.

WHY HE DID NOT GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

HE COULD LEAP THROUGH THE AIR.

My object in writing is two-fold: to express my gratitude for a great benefit, and to tell a short story which cannot fail to interest the feelings of many others. It is all about myself, but I have remarked that when a man tells the honest truth about himself he is all the more likely to be of use to his fellow-creatures. To begin, then, you must know I had long been more or less subject to attacks of bronchitis, a complaint that you are aware is very common and troublesome in Great Britain in certain seasons of the year. Some months ago I had a very severe turn of it, worse, I think, than I ever had before. It was probably brought on by my catching cold, as we are all apt to do when we least expect it. Weeks passed by, and my trouble proved to be very obstinate. It would not yield to medicine, and as I also began to have violent racking pains in my limbs and back, I became greatly alarmed. I could neither eat nor sleep. If I had been a feeble, sickly man, I should have thought less strangely of it; but as, on the contrary, I was hearty and robust, I feared some new and terrible thing had got hold of me, which might make my strength of no avail against it. I say, that was the way I thought.

Presently I could not even lie down for the pain all over my body. I asked my doctor what he thought of my condition, he frankly said "I am sorry to have to tell that you are getting worse!" This so frightened my friends, as well as myself, that they said "Thomas, you must go to the

Hospital; it may be your only chance for life!"

But I didn't want to go to the hospital. Who does, when he thinks he can possibly get along without doing it? I am a labouring man, with a large family depending on me for support, and I might almost as well be in my grave as to be laid on my back in a hospital unable to lift a hand for months, or God knows how long! Right at this point I had a thought flash across my mind like a streak of sunshine in a cloudy day. I had heard and read a good deal about Mother Segel's Curative Syrup, and I resolved, before consenting to be taken to the hospital, I would try that well-known remedy. On this I gave up the doctor's medicine and began taking the Syrup. Mark the wonderful result! I had taken but three doses within twenty-four hours when I was seized with a fit of coughing, and threw up the phlegm and mucus off my chest by the mouthful. The Syrup had loosened and broken it up. Continuing with the Syrup, the racking pain, which I believe came from the bitter and poison humours in my blood and joints, soon left me entirely, and I felt like going to sleep, and I did sleep sound and quiet. Then I felt hungry, with a natural appetite, and as I ate I soon got strong and well.

I felt I could leap through the air with delight!

In a week I was able to go to my work again. It doesn't seem possible, yet it is true, and the neighbours know it. There are plenty of witnesses to prove it. And, therefore, when I say I preach the good news of the great power of Segel's Syrup to cure pain and disease far and wide, nobody will wonder at me.

THOMAS CANNING.

75, Military-road, Canterbury, Kent.

Mother Segel's Curative Syrup is for sale by all chemists and medicine vendors; and by the Proprietors, A. J. White, Limited, 35, Farringdon-road, London, E.C., England.

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TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years' standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 21, Bedford Square, London, W.C., England.

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Miscellaneous Intelligence.

DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 4th April, 1889, THOMAS RAESIDE, Engineer, late s.s. *Tungchow*, aged 31 years.

At Shanghai, on the 8th April, THOMAS, aged 14 months, son of Mr. & Mrs. Stevens, I.M. Customs Service.

At Shanghai, on the 8th instant, GABRIEL JOSEPH, the beloved infant son of EMILE and JANE BISSON, aged 6 months and 6 days.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Warburg and 2 children, and Miss Goldman. For Tientsin—Mr. Elbert Birkmaste. For Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. H. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. Hillier, Messrs. G. Jensen and J. W. H. Burgoyne. For Yokohama—Mrs. George, Rev. and Mrs. Frank J. Mills, Mrs. Pratt and child, Mrs. Bennett and child, Messrs. A. Cushman, W. Cope and O. Thierli.

Per str. *Prussien*, for Hongkong—Major Chat-r and Sergeant Scott. For Genoa—Mr. and Mrs. Halling. For Bremen—Mr. and Mrs. Krauss and son, Mr. and Mrs. Kirchner and family. For Southampton—Mr.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 11th April, 1889.

PIECE GOODS.—The improvement in the demand which was reported in our last has scarcely been confirmed by the business transacted since the mail left, the interval having been one particularly devoid of interest, the market being exceedingly quiet, though it may be characterised as steady, no special change in the position, either as regards the off-take or prices offered for any make or article, being peculiarly noticeable. The chief reason appears to be the firmer attitude which Importers have had to assume in consequence of the adverse course of exchange, and the uncertainty as to when or where the present decline will stop, and the dealers therefore find some difficulty in making their orders fit in. The only alteration, or approach to it, of any importance is in best 8-4-lbs. *Shirtings*, which are decidedly strong, and in most cases command the higher prices required, beyond this the small business to be recorded is about on the same lines as before. The Tientsin buyers are operating quietly, or at all events shipping their former purchases, the deliveries for that Port continuing very favorable, which seems to indicate that the more satisfactory news recently received regarding the market there is not exaggerated. The Szechuen markets are apparently keeping very quiet, the demand for Woollens showing no improvement, but, as far as Cotton Goods are concerned, clearances for Hankow look well, in fact the Customs Returns this week are quite cheering, in this respect, for all Ports.

Grey Shirtings.—There is very little variety about the sales this week, which are inside 25,000 pieces, and comprise much the same chops that have been selling regularly during the last month or two, namely:—*Blue Pheasant* £1.45, *Blue Elephant* £1.46, *Red Goose* £1.51, *Sin-wo Horse* £1.53, *Blue Fish* £1.54, *Red Woman* £1.55, *Green Dragon and Bell* £1.56, *Collie Lion* £1.58 (net), *Red Six Women* £1.63, *Blue Goose* £1.71, *Red Pogoda* £1.71/72 (net), *Blue Two Dragon and Bell* £1.75, and *Blue Spur* £1.76/77. These prices show firm rates, with a slight upward tendency for the best makes, which is also noticeable in the auction results. A large sale is reported "to arrive" of fine goods, but particulars have not transpired yet.

6-lbs. and 7-lbs.—Further sales have been made of about 3,500 pieces at £0.92½ for 5½-lbs. *Green Anchor* and £0.93 for 6-lbs. *Yellow Chinaman*, prices at auction keeping very steady for these weights, but rather easier for 7-lbs. goods.

9-12 to 11-lbs.—The market is quieter, and only a small business has been done at £2.06 for *Woman and Boat*, £2.12 for *Red Horse Head A.* £2.12½ for *Red Rhinoceros*, £2.16 for *Lee-tai Horse Head* and £2.22½ for *Silver Plate*, these prices do not show any alteration, but at auction there is a decline all round.

12-lbs.—Here, too, prices do not appear quite so strong, as the following sales, amounting to about 10,000 pieces, show: *One Lancer* £2.31, *Elephant and Snake* £2.38½, *Soldier HHH* £2.41 and *DDD* £2.58.

White Shirtings.—*Blue Bear* 64-reed at £1.79 and *Three Crown and Gold Chinawoman* 72-reeds at £2.00 and £2.06 respectively, are the only sales published, the market being very quiet, with prices drooping at auction for 64-reeds, but slightly steadier for the higher counts.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—There is a fair demand for desirable Mexican makes, which appear scarce however, and sales are restricted, not amounting to more than 5/6 000 pieces, say, *Single Man and Fish* £1.07, *Double Man and Fish* £1.09½, *Silver Buffalo* £1.16, and *Blue 3-Fish and Crown* £1.22 (net). Auction rates are steady.

6-lbs.—Some more *Black Dragon* have been taken £0.91, showing an advance.

8-lbs.—The sales mentioned are *Blue Dragon and Shield* at £1.46½, *Pakkwa* at £1.52½ and *Blue Dragon No. 1* at £1.84, but the demand is not general and prices have receded at the public auctions.

Drills.—*English.*—There appears to be some enquiry for common makes and about 2,000 pieces *Man and Elephant* chop, have been taken at £1.90/92½, the only other transaction this week being 600 pieces *Boar's Head* at £2.75.

American.—Before the last mail left the sale transpired of 7,500 pieces *Pepperell* at £2.88 less 1 per cent. Since then the market has looked a little stronger and better offers have been made for this cloth, while £2.82 net has been paid again for 3,000 pieces *Stark Lion* and £2.70, less 1 per cent., for 1,500 pieces *Three Goat*, a new chop of light weight goods.

Jeans.—*English.*—There is more enquiry and the market is firmer, stocks being small, specially the common makes. Sales are *Tai Wo Eagle* at £1.35 and *Evo Dog* at £1.95.

Dutch.—Two sales have been made of *Blue Eagle* at £1.70, the quantity being about 2,500 pieces.

Sheetings.—There has been nothing doing in either *English* or *American* makes (with exception of a very small lot of the former at £2.65 for *Crocodile*), the demand being very slack, particularly for the former.

Cotton Yarn.—*English.*—Low offers have been made but we have not heard of any business.

Bombay.—A good demand has continued for Tientsin and Newchwang, and 10s. and 16s. of favorite Spinnings are rather higher.

Sales amount to 1,281 bales as follows:—

No. 10s., 370 bales—*Empress* £50½, *F. Petit (Lion)* £51½, *Connaught* £51½/51¾, *Alexandra (Bullock)* £52, *F. Petit (Fish)* £52/52½ and *M. Petit (Sun)* £54.

No. 16s., 495 bales—*Lufji* £56½, *Kaisar-i-Hind* and *Bombay United* £57, *Prince* £57½, *Gordon and Anglo Indian* £58, *Oriental Colaba* £58½, *David Mill* £58.60/58.75, *F. Petit (Fish)* and *M. Petit (Sun)* £59½.

No. 20s., 391 bales—*Liford* £58, *Albert* £58/58½, *New Great Eastern* £58½, *National* £58½, *Dhun* £59, *James Greaves* £59½, *Suzerain* £59½, *Connaught* £60.60/61.00, and *David Mill* £61½.

No. 24s., 25 bales—*David Mill* £64½.

Fancy Goods.—Although no sales have been reported a fair indent business has been done, chiefly in *Printed Cottons* at the recent advance, but miscellaneous goods have also been ordered. *Velvets* have only been sold at auction, a heavy decline being the result. *Turkey Reds* continue going into consumption in satisfactory quantities, principally indent cargo. As considerable deliveries of *Chintzes* still appear in the Customs Returns we have deducted them from the stock of *Printed T-Cloths* with which they are evidently mixed up.

Woollens.—The decline in *Scarlet Cumlets* still continues at auction, while *Dark Blue* is steady, and *Certain* higher again in the best chops. A few more *Dark Blue* have been placed at £15.50 for *WWW*, and 100 pieces *Assorted*, under *Joss* chop, at £9.25. *Long Bils* are a shade easier at auction, and *V. Scarlet* is selling privately at £5.05, the quantity reported being 200 pieces—*Lastings* are steadier and fair sales of *J.M. No. 12* have again been made at £8.30. *Spanish Stripes* are a shade firmer also but business is confined to the auctions. A sale of 100 pieces *Assorted Russian Cloth* has been made at £14.70 for *Lee Tai No. 1* quality. There has been a little more enquiry for *Italian Cloths* and sales have been made, but at low prices.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Biefield's Report:—The distressing state of the country caused by the famine is depressing trade considerably, and the prevailing quietude and disheartening reports from almost all the consuming districts are curtailing the volume of business very seriously. With the exception of a few staple articles, deliveries are very unsatisfactory.

LEAD.—Prices are easier, and Enthoven has been sold at £4 6½ for cash. L.B. "spot" is quoted £4.70 to £4.72½.

PIG IRON.—Contracts are reported of new chops at £20.50.

COKE.—Some 200 tons, "to arrive," have been placed at £16.

RAILROADS AND BAR IRON.—Values are unchanged, but there is no fresh business reported since my last issue. Shipments to Newchwang, which are usually very heavy in the beginning of the year, are almost nil.

GLYANISED IRON.—Corrugated is wanted at £4.50.

IRON WIRE.—A sale of 2-0 cask, No. 11/30, is reported at £4.20.

OLD IRON.—Reports from Tientsin are more satisfactory, and prices here are rising. Sales on record are:—340 tons *Scrap* at £1.41½ to £1.42½; 40 tons *Telegraph Wire* at £1.82½ to £1.95; 12 tons *Old Wire* at £1.72½; and at Auction 50 tons *Iron Chains* at £1.33½ to £1.39, and 300 piculs *Bar Iron* at £1.57 to £1.60.

TIN PLATES.—Are lower, and offered at quotations without finding buyers.

STEEL.—No fresh business reported.

SPELTER.—There are rumours of large contracts under this heading, but particulars have not transpired.

STRAITS TIN.—Sales are making to only a small extent at £27.60 to 28.

COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING.—Further contracts are reported at last rates.

ZINC SHEATHING.—Has been done at £6.75 for No. 5 to 10.

MATCHES.—The market is devoid of activity, contract goods are arriving in large quantities, and no new business has been reported.

SOAP AND WINDOW GLASS.—Nothing doing.

NEEDLES.—Sales reported are:—50 cases, No. 1/12, ea. 250 Mills, Grooveless, at £59 to £60; 5 cases No. 3/7 at £52.50; 5 cases, ea. 100 Mills, No. 1/10, at £21.

DYES AND COLOURS.—Continue to meet with a very moderate demand. Sales reported are:—10,000 bottles, ea. 2 oz., Blue, Woman Chop, at 1½ cands.; 12,500 tins, ea. 8 oz., Magenta, Butterfly Chop, at 60 cands.; and small parcels of China Green, Bird Chop, at 4½ cands.; and Magenta, Boys Chop, at 6 cands.

BUTTONS.—Are in moderate request, but steady. Transactions include 10 cases, No. 2/4, Enamelled, at £64; 5 cases, No. 2/4, Fillagree, at £70, and 30 cases, No. 7, "to arrive," at £25.

UMBRELLAS.—There is very little movement in Alpacas and Cottons. Small parcels of ordinary Silk have been sold at £16 to £16.50.

Kerosene Oil.—During the week under review some 40,000 cases have changed hands at £1.55 for Devos, "to arrive," per Snifer, £1.50 for Russian, "to arrive," and £1.66½ to £1.67 for Devos, "spot."

Opium.—Closing quotations:—Malwa (new) £420, (old) £445, Patna (new) £394, Benares (new) £381.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's Circular:—London telegrams quote Silk—Dull. Deliveries of Chinas to 8th instant 300 bales.

RAW SILKS.—Small settlements of No. 5 Tsatlees have been made during the week at a slight decline in prices, and the stock of offer of silk of desirable quality is now reduced to a very low ebb. Figures of settlements given below include about 2,500 bales on Wild Silks, principally contract cargo.

TSATLEES.—About 200 bales have been placed at quotations.

HANGCHOWS.—Hardly anything in stock. Ten bales of Pagoda Ting-fung have been settled at £350 per picul.

TAYSAMS.—Fifty bales of Green Kahings have been taken at £317½ for M. and £302½ for M.M.

YELLOW SILKS.—Only 30 bales have changed hands at £237½ for Fooyung.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 4th to the 10th instant, are about 150 bales of White Silk, 30 piculs of Yellow Silk and 30 piculs of Wild Silks.

RE-REELS.—Further deliveries under contracts, to the extent of about 100 bales, are reported.

WILD SILKS.—The market has been opened at £130 a 125 for Tussah Raw.

WASTE SILKS.—Market quiet.

SHANTUNG PONGEES.—No sales.

Purchases include:—**TSATLEES.**—Bird "Chun-ling" at £355 per picul, Yellow Elephant at £355, Kuekee's Kin-ling at £355, Almon Flower Sz-may at £350. **HANGCHOW TSATLEE.**—Pagoda "Ting-fung" at £350. **TAYSAM.**—Green Kahings M. at £317½, Green Kahings M.M. at £302½. **YELLOW SILK.**—Fooyung at £237½. **TUSSAH.**—Raw at £130. **RE-REELD TSATLEE.**—Market 1 at £380, do. II at £370, do. III at £360.

	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.
Settlements for this mail †	about 3,250	1,500	2,500	2,750	750	1,200 bales.
" for the season † ..	55,750	54,000	56,500	54,750	54,750	51,000 "
Stock	2,000	4,000	5,300	6,250	6,250	2,200 "
Total Arrivals	57,750	58,000	61,800	61,000	61,000	53,800 "

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	*England.	*France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	5,319	29,112	34,431	4,304	375	1,099	40,209 bales.
" Yellow ..	62	4,740	4,802	2	1,869	310	7,043 "
" Wild ..	2,105	3,375	5,480	67	...	...	5,547 "
	7,486	37,227	44,713	4,373	2,244	1,469	52,799 "
Against in 1887-88	7,094	37,446	44,540	3,466	2,837	1,688	52,531 "
" 1886-87	5,000	41,129	46,129	5,429	1,292	1,187	54,037 "
Export—Waste Silk	13,802	19,418	33,220	3	137	121	33,481 piculs.
" Cocoons	4,118	1,573	5,691	60	53	.....	5,804 "

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 957 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

" 115 " " to Continent.

Tea.—**BLACK.**—There is no business to report.

STOCK.—6,000 half-chests against "Nil" half-chests in 1887-1888.

GREEN.—Market closed.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTZE PORTS.

From the commencement of the season to date.

	1888-89.			1887-88.		
	Black.	Green.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain...	45,919,822 lbs.	6,270,395 lbs.	52,190,117 lbs.	51,721,504 lbs.	8,080,146 lbs.	59,801,650 lbs.
Russia direct ..	17,604,478 "	.....	17,604,478 "	12,019,023 "	.....	12,019,023 "
America	4,093,900 "	14,714,549 "	18,808,449 "	4,316,632 "	14,927,180 "	19,243,812 "

AND FROM ALL CHINA Season—

	1888-89.			1887-88.		
	Black.	Green.	Total.	Black.	Green.	Total.
To Great Britain...	96,874,417	5,956,399	102,830,816	115,818,431	8,081,094	123,899,525
United States	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
from China	.....	.....	80,302,072	.....	.....	86,017,507
and Japan..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
						87,233,689 "

EXPORT OF TEA TO NORTHERN PORTS.

To Russian Manchuria.

From Hankow and Shanghai.

To Tientsin.

From Foochow.

Total.

	Black Tea.	Brick Tea.	Green Tea.	Black Tea.	Brick Tea.	Dust.	Green Tea.	Black.	Brick.	Total.
1888 × 1889...	1,642,181	7,128,569	302	15,438,573	33,046,964	86,971	299,121	2,398,544	2,561,253	62,602,478 lbs.
1887 × 1888...	1,493,170	5,724,322	333	10,235,714	30,374,641	185,943	134,963	2,494,424	6,127,131	65,770,641 "

Freight.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report :—There is no change to report since the issue of our circular of the 29th ultimo, the freight market remaining in the same dull state. Coastwise there is very little doing, the regular liners being sufficient for all requirements. A few of the small coasters have taken their departure for Wladivostok to run during the summer months on the Amoor. For Nagasaki-Shanghai, rates remain steady as quoted below.

For London, via usual ports of call and Suez Canal :—The Mail and Holt's still have the berth to themselves and are asking the same as quoted in our last, viz : 45s. and 47s. respectively. Holt's steamer *Laertes* is advertised for despatch on the 17th instant, and will be followed by the same Company's steamer *Palamed* leaving on the 24th current. The Mutual Line s.s. *Ningchow* is due shortly from Japan and will load at current rates.

For New York, via usual ports of call and Suez Canal :—The departure of the Glen Line s.s. *Glengarry* on the 5th instant has left the berth entirely vacant, and until the opening of the new season we do not look for further departure. Via Cape :—The s.v. *Antoinette* calling at Hongkong to complete her loading left this with the greater portion of her space taken up and there is but little prospect of another sailer taking the berth for some time. The s.v. *Titan*, now in Hongkong, will take cargo from this under through Bills of Lading at 35s. per ton of 40 feet.

Departures for London via Suez Canal :—The Glen Line s.s. *Glenfinlas* (via Swatow) April 2nd ; Holt's s.s. *Bellerophon* (via Amoy) April 5th, Holt's s.s. *Cyclops* (via Amoy) April 11th.

Departures for New York via Suez Canal :—The Glen Line s.s. *Glengarry* April 5th. Via Hongkong and Cape : s.v. *Antoinette* April 6th.

Quotations are :—Newchwang to Swatow, 24 Mex. c-n's per picul, nominal. Chefoo to Swatow, 17 Mex. cents per picul, slight demand. Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.65 per ton of Coal nett, for steamers ; \$1.65 ex ship, for sailing vessels, nominal.

Settlements during the fortnight :—Nil.

Disengaged vessel in port :—*Florence Treat*, British barque, 724 tons register.

Coal.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report :—Another fortnight has passed without any matter of importance transpiring, business having been confined almost entirely to retail sale. CARDIFF :—A very small stock and no demand. AMERICAN ANTHRACITE :—No enquiry. AUSTRALIAN :—Wollongong. The stock is very large and shipments are ample, consequently no advance in prices can be looked for in the near future. A cargo to arrive per *Aberdeen* has been placed, and £7.00 per ton ex godown is the price named. The s.v. *Florence Treat* arrived on the 6th instant with about 1,100 tons which were sold some time ago at £9.00 per ton, ex ship. JAPAN :—A few small sales of Mixed Japan have been made, but arrivals have been mostly on account of consumers.

	Per ton.		Per ton.
Cardiff, ex godown	12.00 nominal.	Japan, Takasima, Small ex godown	4.00 scarce.
American Anthracite, ex godown	10.00 "	" Miki Lump, "	5.00 no stock.
Sydney, Wollongong, ex sailing ship ...	6.75 1/2 fers.	" " Small "	4.00 "
" steamer cargo ex godown	7.10 "	" Imaboko, ex godown	3.25 "
Newcastle, N.S.W., ex ship	— no stock.	" Takro Karatz, ex godown (best)	5.50 "
Japan, Takasima Lump, ex godown	6.00 nominal.	Keelung, ex godown	4.00 "

Arrivals during the fortnight have been :—Miki Large, 2,299 tons ; Hayama, 510 tons ; Takasima Dust, 929 tons ; Mixed Japan, 1,678 tons ; Coke, 6 tons ; Miki Small, 557 tons ; Takasima Lump, 1,700 tons ; Wollongong, 1,146 tons ; Karatz, 580 tons ; total, 9,405 tons

Shares—The business of the week comprises French Gas shares at £150, Yangtze Insurance at £100, National Marines at £4, Cantons at \$110, China Fires at \$81, and Hongkong Fires at \$360. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have been sold at £193, Birt's at £37½, Hongkong and Whampoa Docks at 60 per cent premium. Co-operative Cargo-boats have changed hands at £45, Land Investment shares at £19, Hall & Holtz shares at £29, Sheridan Mines at £215, Terak Tins at \$25, Waterworks' at £21½ and 28½ at exchange 4/1½, Chinese Loan Bonds, issue E, at £287½, and China Merchants' Debentures at £108 with accrued interest at exchange 4/1½.

Exchange hardened after the departure of last mail, and on Wednesday advanced about ½ per cent. A fall of ¾ per cent. has, however, since taken place owing to the decline of silver and easiness in India. Business has been small. Council drafts were allotted at 1/4½ and transfers at 1/4½. Bar silver is quoted at 42½. Chinese interest is 1 mace, equal to 3½ per cent per annum.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Weekly Circular.)

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		NEW YORK.		HONG-KONG.		INDIA.	
	T. Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		France 4 m/s. and 6 do.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Rupees. T/Transfers.		Rupees. T/Transfers.	
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.
Saturday, 6th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.32/5.35	5.32/5.35	97½		27½		303	
Monday, 8th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.32/5.35	5.32/5.35	97½		27½		304	
Tuesday, 9th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.32/5.35	5.33/5.36	97		27½		304	
Wednesday, 10th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.3½	5.33/5.36	5.34/5.37	96½		27½		304	
Thursday, 11th	4.1½	4.1½	4.2	4.2	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.31/5.34	5.32/5.35	97½		27½		304½	
Friday, 12th	4.1½	4.1½	4.1½	4.1½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	4.2½	5.30/5.33	5.31/5.34	97½		27½		304½	

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 11th April comprised the following Goods :—

	For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.		For the week.		Previous week.		Corresponding week last year.	
	pcs.	against	pcs.	against	pcs.	against	pcs.	against	pcs.	against	pcs.	against
Grey Shirtings	16,075		18,260		28,615		Velvets	60		126		30
White Shirtings	10,263		9,120		9,260		Velveteens					90
T. Cloths	5,990		5,370		2,900		Cotton Yarn	bales				bls.
Drills, English	480		510		645		Camlets	1,090		1,060		1,620
Jeans			120		460		Long Ells	460		470		600
Sheetings, English	420		320		960		Lastings	460		679		840
Turkey Reds					400		Spanish Stripes	616		810		720

At Ne-kee, 6th inst.—

PIECE GOODS.

Cotton Long Ells.—20 pieces ; *Two Dragon, Scarlet* £3.11.

At E-teh-le 8th inst—

Cotton Spanish Stripes.—48 pieces ; *Stag, Gentian* £0.20.45, *Scarlet* £0.20.3.

Velvets.—22in. *Black, Sin-wo Woman* £0.11.6½.

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—600 pieces ; *Shield* £0.92½.

At Takoo, 9th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—7-lbs.—500 pieces ; *Silver Steamboat* £1.26½/26½.

S. 4-lbs.—1,240 pieces ; *Blue Large Eagle* £1.39/39½, *Man Horse and Spear* £1.44/44½, *Silver Steamboat* £1.58 and *Blue Dragon* £1.78½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,800 pieces; *Man Horse and Spear* M.T. No. 2 $\text{\$1.18}\frac{1}{2}$, do. No. 1 $\text{\$1.22}\frac{1}{2}$, *Silver Steamboat* $\text{\$1.38}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.37}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Silver Dragon* $\text{\$1.47}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.47}\frac{1}{2}$.

8-lbs.—1,500 pieces; *Man Horse and Spear* M.T. No. 2 $\text{\$1.33}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.34}\frac{1}{2}$, do. No. 1 $\text{\$1.47}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.47}\frac{1}{2}$, *Silver Steamboat* $\text{\$1.59}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.60}\frac{1}{2}$ and *Silver Dragon* $\text{\$1.68}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.69}$.

At E-wo, 10th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—5-lb.—500 pieces; *Red Peacock* $\text{\$0.92}\frac{1}{2}$.

8-lbs.—1,800 pieces; *Blue 2 Duck* $\text{\$1.55}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.55}\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Crab* $\text{\$1.72}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Bell* XX $\text{\$1.80}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Blue Tea Caddy* DDD $\text{\$1.82}\frac{1}{2}$ and *Blue 2-Tea Caddy* $\text{\$1.98}$ / $\text{\$1.99}$.

10-lbs.—1,700 pieces; *Black Crab* $\text{\$1.99}\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Crab* $\text{\$2.03}$ / $\text{\$2.03}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Crab* $\text{\$2.03}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.04}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Tea Caddy* XX $\text{\$2.05}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.06}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Blue Tea Caddy* DDD $\text{\$2.20}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.20}\frac{1}{2}$.

White Shirtings.—64-reed, 500 pieces; *Red Tea Caddy* $\text{\$1.50}$ / $\text{\$1.50}\frac{1}{2}$.

Various, 493 pieces; *Queen T.* No. 55 $\text{\$1.96}$, 65 $\text{\$2.02}$, 75 $\text{\$2.02}\frac{1}{2}$, 85 $\text{\$1.99}$, 95 $\text{\$2.06}\frac{1}{2}$, 105 $\text{\$2.03}$, *Dear and Stork* No. 80 $\text{\$2.53}\frac{1}{2}$, and 90 $\text{\$2.82}$.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,050 pieces; *Red Peacock* $\text{\$1.03}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Tea Caddy* $\text{\$1.20}$ / $\text{\$1.20}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Tea Caddy* $\text{\$1.33}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.34}$.

8-lbs.—600 pieces; *Red Tea Caddy* $\text{\$1.35}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.36}$ and *Red Tea Caddy* $\text{\$1.55}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.56}$.

Printed T-Cloths.—150 pieces; *Ash, Stag* No. 1 $\text{\$1.49}$ / $\text{\$1.50}$.

At Yuen-fong, this forenoon—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—800 pieces; *Lotus* $\text{\$0.95}\frac{1}{2}$, *Two Man* $\text{\$0.99}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Blue 3-Students* $\text{\$0.99}\frac{1}{2}$.

7-lbs.—1,950 pieces; *Blue Britannia* $\text{\$1.28}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue 4-Sister* $\text{\$1.35}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Blue 3-Students* $\text{\$1.46}$.

8-lbs.—2,855 pieces; *House* $\text{\$1.44}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Britannia* $\text{\$1.45}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue 4-Sister* $\text{\$1.60}$ / $\text{\$1.60}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue 3-Students* $\text{\$1.61}\frac{1}{2}$.

Blue Double Shield $\text{\$1.67}$ / $\text{\$1.67}\frac{1}{2}$, *Five Brother* $\text{\$1.80}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.81}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Painted 3-Students* $\text{\$1.80}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.80}\frac{1}{2}$.

10-lbs.—1,950 pieces *Blue Britannia* $\text{\$1.91}\frac{1}{2}$, *Red do.* $\text{\$2.03}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.04}\frac{1}{2}$, *Red 3-Students* $\text{\$2.07}\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Emperor's Birthday* $\text{\$2.06}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.06}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Red 4-Sister* $\text{\$2.21}\frac{1}{2}$.

10 12-lbs.—500 pieces; *Gold Britannia* $\text{\$2.35}$.

11-lbs.—750 pieces; *Painted 3-Students* $\text{\$2.42}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.42}\frac{1}{2}$.

12-lbs.—420 pieces; *Soldier* $\text{\$2.42}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.42}\frac{1}{2}$, *Loo Loo Toong* $\text{\$2.30}$, and *Nine Lions* $\text{\$2.47}\frac{1}{2}$.

White Shirtings.—64-reed, 4,700 pieces; *House bright* $\text{\$1.54}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.54}\frac{1}{2}$, and *dull* $\text{\$1.52}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.53}\frac{1}{2}$, *Blue Double Lighthouse bright* $\text{\$1.59}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.59}\frac{1}{2}$, and *dull* $\text{\$1.54}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.55}$, *Blue Stag* $\text{\$1.78}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.78}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Black and Gold 3-Students* $\text{\$1.77}\frac{1}{2}$.

72-reed.—4,670 pieces; *White and Gold 3-Students* $\text{\$1.96}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.97}$, *Red Two-Sister* $\text{\$1.99}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$1.99}\frac{1}{2}$, *Red Double Lighthouse bright* $\text{\$2.01}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.02}$, *dull* $\text{\$2.02}$ / $\text{\$2.02}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Red and Gold Star bright* $\text{\$2.19}\frac{1}{2}$, *dull* $\text{\$2.20}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Green and Gold 3-Students (White Irish)* $\text{\$2.57}\frac{1}{2}$.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—490 pieces; *Blue Lion* $\text{\$1.21}$, *Red Double Shield* $\text{\$1.23}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Red 3-Students* $\text{\$1.45}$.

8-lbs.—900 pieces; *Blue Lion* $\text{\$1.39}$, *Eagle* XX $\text{\$1.50}$ / $\text{\$1.50}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Painted 3 Students* $\text{\$1.73}$.

Drills.—*English*, 14-lbs.—390 pieces; *Black Flag Chief* $\text{\$1.68}$, *Britannia* $\text{\$2.50}\frac{1}{2}$, and *Old Man Head* $\text{\$2.56}$ / $\text{\$2.56}\frac{1}{2}$.

15-lbs.—90 pieces; *Running Deer* $\text{\$2.12}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.12}\frac{1}{2}$.

Sheetings.—*English*, 14-lbs.—420 pieces; *Lion and Cloud* $\text{\$2.19}\frac{1}{2}$ / $\text{\$2.20}$, and *Old Man Head* $\text{\$2.59}$ / $\text{\$2.59}\frac{1}{2}$.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dk. Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	*Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid. ..	Sales. Pcs.
NE-KEE, 6th inst.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
S. St'pes, B.T.L., p.yd.	0.42.4	0.41 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.43.6	0.43.9/44	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.42 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	0.43.4	0.43.8	
Sales, pcs.	60	6	18	24*	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	6	72	192
Elephant p.yd.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.34	
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6*	6
E-TER-LEE, 8th inst.													
Sp. Stripes, H. p. yd.	0.40.2	.....	0.41 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.43.9	.....	0.40.2*	.....	.....	.....	0.40	.....	0.41.9	
Sales, pcs.	24	.....	48	6	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	6	102
E-wo, 10th inst.													
C'let*, Man Horse, p.p.	9.12/15	.....	9.41	9.07/10	9.03/04	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs.	110	.....	20	20*	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	180
Long Ells, H.D.B. p.p.	4.84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs.	300	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300
M. C'ths, Cock 50,000	.....	0.63 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.66	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	26
S. S'pes, S'gle Phoenix	0.39.9/40	.....	0.41 $\frac{1}{2}$ /41.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs.	120	.....	72	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	192
YUEN-FONG, 11th inst.													
Camlets, S.S.G. p.pcc.	10.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ /40	10.25/27 $\frac{1}{2}$	10.30/35	.....	10.92 $\frac{1}{2}$ /95	.....	.....	.....	10.20	.....	9.25/27 $\frac{1}{2}$	10.20	
Sales, pcs.	200	90	120	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	30	20*	500
G.G.M., p.pcc.	10.50	.....	10.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	10.95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.40	.....	
Sales, pcs.	20	.....	10	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	50
S.S.H., p.pcc.	9.90/87 $\frac{1}{2}$	9.42 $\frac{1}{2}$ /45	10.00	.....	10.10/05	.....	.....	.....	9.50	.....	9.15	9.95/97 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs.	140	90	60	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	20	10*	360
Long Ells, G.G.L., p.p.	5.22	6.37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4.92	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs.	100	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	140
Lastings, G.G.R., p.pcc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.65	.....	.....	9.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	260	.....	.....	40*	280
F.F.R., p.pcc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.90	.....	.....	7.57 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	160	.....	.....	20*	180
S. S'pes, T.T.B. p. yd.	0.46 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.46 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.45 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.47	.....	0.43 $\frac{1}{2}$*	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.45	0.50 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Sales, pcs.	60	12	6	6*	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	24	126

Messrs. HAYTER & HAYTER'S Monthly Statement of the Estimated Exports of Woollens Shipped to China from London and Liverpool:—

	Pieces Lon: Ells.	Pieces Camlets.	Pieces Lastings and Crape Last- ings.	Pieces other Worst- ed and Union Stuffs.	Pieces Spanish Stripes.	Pieces Other Woollens, Blankets, &c.
Shipped to 28th February 1889...	29,280	24,840	18,450	15,180	4,794	10,098
Shipped to the same date last year...	25,240	19,870	28,780	30,980	12,648	15,705
Do, do. 1887...	13,020	25,880	21,150	21,588	4,968	11,635
Total Shipped during the year 1888...	127,860	113,630	138,460	142,940	63,120	64,800
Do, do. 1887...	98,260	149,850	136,880	150,616	56,440	84,832

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.	QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			Tls. m. c.	PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds			Tls. m. c.
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds. nom	✓ pc.	0.8 7½ to 1.0 2		50/52 ..	✓ pc.	1.15 to 1.60	
7-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.0 5 .. 1.4 5		Special ..	✓ pc.	2.50 .. 3.15	
8½ to 8½-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.20 .. 1.92				3.50 .. 3.80	0.07 per 30 yd.
9-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.88 .. 1.92		TURKEY REDS—			
9-lbs and XX ..	✓ pc.	1.65 .. 1.90		24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in. nom	✓ pc.	0.60 .. 1.35	
9½ to 10-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.70 .. 2.40		Best ..	✓ pc.	1.45 .. 2.50	0.15 per pos.
Dewhurst's, Best ..	✓ pc.	2.20 ..					
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in ..	✓ pc.	2.10 .. 2.65		VELVETS—Black, 22-in. nom			0.18 per pos.
12-lbs American 32/56 in ..	✓ pc.	2.20 .. 2.60	0.08 per pos.	VELVETRENS—Black, 18-in ..	✓ pc.	0.10 .. 0.15	0.15 ..
				26-in ..	✓ pc.	0.15 .. 0.19	
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				BLACK DENIMS ..	✓ pc.	0.03 .. 0.04	5 per cent. ad. val.
40-yds 36-in 56-rd ..	✓ pc.	1.25 .. 1.35		DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in ..	✓ pc.	0.90 .. 1.20	0.06½ per pos.
60-reed ..	✓ pc.	1.30 .. 1.45		41-in ..	✓ pc.	1.00 .. 1.64	
64 ..	✓ pc.	1.35 .. 1.80		MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in ..	✓ pc.	0.45 .. 0.60	0.03½ ..
64 .. Best and 66-reed ..	✓ pc.	1.80 .. 1.95		YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32 ..	✓ pc.	75.00 .. 80.00	0.70 per pos.
72 to 80-reed ..	✓ pc.	1.80 .. 2.40		16/24, nom ..	✓ pc.	51.00 .. 62.50	
Best ..	✓ pc.	2.10 .. 3.60		CAMELETS—English, SS Scarlet	✓ pc.	8.50 .. 10.00	
PHILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs	✓ pc.	2.50 .. 2.90		GG ..	✓ pc.	10.60 .. 10.65	
English, 14 to 15-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.40 .. 2.00	0.10 ..	SSG ..	✓ pc.	10.45 .. 10.50	0.05
Good to Finest ..	✓ pc.	1.90 .. 2.85		HDB nom. ..	✓ pc.	10.20 ..	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs. nom	✓ pc.	2.00 .. 2.40		CPH ..	✓ pc.	15.00 .. 18.00	
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd 30-in 8½-lbs	✓ pc.	1.50 .. 1.80	0.07½ ..	Dutch, 33 to 24-in nom. ..	✓ pc.	7.25 .. 23.00	
English, 8 to 8½-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.30 .. 1.90		Do. 37-in ..	✓ pc.	0.45 .. 1.40	
American .. Beaver, nom. ..	✓ pc.	1.90 ..		MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ..	✓ pc.	0.30 .. 0.55	
				SPANISH STRIPES, Assorted ..	✓ pc.	0.51 ..	0.12
SHIRTINGS—				HH ..	✓ pc.	0.51 ..	
Am., 40yd. 36/38in. 14lb. nom.	✓ pc.	2.25 .. 2.90	0.08 ..	HDR Sc'let, ..	✓ pc.	0.46 .. 0.47	
Eng., 14 to 16lb. ..	✓ pc.	1.50 .. 2.85		TTB ..	✓ pc.	0.43 ..	
T-CLOTHS—				RTI ..	✓ pc.	0.42½ .. 0.43	
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	✓ pc.	0.75 .. 1.10	0.04 ..	CPH ..	✓ pc.	5.20 .. 5.25	
7-lbs ..	✓ pc.	0.85 .. 1.20		Scarl., 24-yd GG ..	✓ pc.	5.30 ..	
6-lbs Mexican ..	✓ pc.	1.00 .. 1.00		HH ..	✓ pc.	4.95 .. 5.00	
7-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.00 .. 1.35		CPH nom. ..	✓ pc.	5.15 ..	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops ..	✓ pc.	1.25 .. 1.75		HDB ..	✓ pc.	4.95 .. 4.97½	
8 to 8½-lbs ..	✓ pc.	1.35 .. 1.95	0.08 ..	V ..	✓ pc.	5.07½ .. 5.10	
Better kinds and XX nom.	✓ pc.	1.65 .. 2.00		Dove .. nom.	✓ pc.	5.07½ ..	0.04½
HANDKERCHIEFS—				Sundries ..	✓ pc.	3.50 .. 5.40	
Blue, 28 to 32-in ..	✓ doz.	0.32½ to 0.57	0.02½ per doz.	Assorted, HH ..	✓ pc.	nom. ..	
Brown ..	✓ doz.	0.36 .. 0.40		CPH ..	✓ pc.	nom. ..	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White.	✓ pc.	1.80 .. 2.00	0.10 per pos.	GG ..	✓ pc.	nom. ..	
Dyed, nom ..	✓ pc.	2.00 .. 2.45		UU ..	✓ pc.	5.00 .. 9.30	0.05
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ..	✓ pc.	1.85 .. 2.00		CRAPPE LASTINGS, 30-yd nom	✓ pc.	2.75 .. 6.50	0.20 per pos.
Dyed ..	✓ pc.	2.20 .. 2.45		CRAPPE LUSTRES ..	✓ pc.	2.75 .. 3.40	
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom	✓ pc.	2.25 .. 3.50	0.15 ..	PLAIN LUSTRES, Black ..	✓ pc.	2.10 .. 2.75	
GANTIAN SHIRTINGS ..	✓ pc.	1.85 .. 2.26		OLKANS—Figured, 30-yd ..	✓ pc.	2.50 .. 3.30	
CHINTZ—Assorted 28in. 28yds. ✓ pc.	✓ pc.	0.80 .. 1.40	0.07 per pos.	Special Colors & Patterns ..	✓ pc.	2.50 .. 3.30	
Blue ..	✓ pc.	0.95 .. 1.15					
Brown ..	✓ pc.	0.95 .. 1.12					
Scarlet ..	✓ pc.	1.00 .. 1.25					

Per Chang of 141 inches.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Ore and Tiles, ..		150.00	@ 160.00	SUGAR—			
TIN PLATES—Payson's and I. C. Coke. per box		4.00	4.10	White, Canton, No. 1 ..	per picul	4.90	@ 5.00
Decorated ..		5.50	7.00	" " " 2 ..	"	4.60	4.70
STEEL, Bamboo ..		3.50	3.60	" " " 3 ..	"	4.00	4.20
Tin, Fok Chok ..		28.00	"	White, Swatow, No. 1 ..	"	5.00	5.10
Sowkong ..		27.60	"	" " " 2 ..	"	4.70	4.80
SPALTER, W. H. Remelted ..		5.50	6.00	" " " 3 ..	"	4.10	4.30
Hard ..		4.00	4.50	Brown, Canton, Best ..	"	3.00	3.20
FIO IRON, Gartaherrie No. 1 ..		21.50	23.00	" " Common ..	"	2.60	2.80
No. 3 ..		20.50	21.00	" Swatow, Best ..	"	3.10	3.30
Common brands ..		18.00	19.50	" " Common ..	"	2.70	2.90
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21 ..		4.00	4.10	PRIMER—Black ..	"	17.00	17.50
" " 14 & 25 ..		4.20	4.30	White ..	"	26.50	27.50
" " 18 & 25 ..		4.05	4.20	BATTANS—Common ..	"	3.20	3.50
IRON—Nail Rod—				Best ..	"	3.80	4.20
Dawson's Best ..		2.35	2.37½	SARAN WOOD ..	per picul	2.70	3.20
Staffordshire ..		2.20	2.25	SANDALWOOD, South Sea ..	"	4.80	5.50
Scotch ..		2.30	2.35	Timor ..	"	7.00	7.50
Belgian ..		1.97½	2.00	Manibat ..	"	17.50	18.50
" Sohiers ..		2.07½	2.10	WINDOW GLASS—			
English—Bar ..		2.10	2.20	Good assortments ..	per box	2.50	2.60
Belgian ..		1.85	2.05	MATCHES—			
Swedish ..		2.70	2.90	Swedish Safety, Red and Black Dip. per case		10.00	16.00
IRON—				Phosphor ..	"	12.00	13.50
I.R ..		4.70	4.72½	Paraffine ..	"	13.00	15.00
Enthoven and Other brands ..		4.62½	4.65	Japanese and Shanghai ..	"	8.00	10.50
ZINC SHEATING, No. 4 to 12 ..		6.50	7.00	Vienna Brilliant ..	p. 25 gross	16.75	19.00
WHITE METAL, (German Silver) ..		40.00	47.00	KROSNER—Dewer's ..	per case	1.67½	"
NICKEL—Cube ..		60.00	82.00	FLINT STONES ..	per picul	0.62	0.68
				COTTON—Shanghai, best ..	"	9.70	"
				Compoek ..	"	10.00	"
				RICK—Shanghai ..	p. 150 cat.	2.70	3.30
				Chinkiang ..	"	2.20	2.30
				HIDES—Cow ..	per picul	12.80	13.80

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 10th April, 1889, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 76 to 81, both numbers inclusive.

Groups.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Singap.	Swatow.	Chinkiang.	Wuh.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chiao.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hioo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings +.....Pcs.	9,245	1,120	26,995	10,205	8,110	58,400	1,395	41,565	1,160	...	300	...	...	1,400
T-Cloths, 32-in.	3,335	1,395	2,325	1,035	1,720	5,095	4,515	12,060	...	...	680	180	...	...
" 36-in.	2,800	...	160	170	1,060	290	50	180	...	...	300	...	...	...
White Shirtings	2,467	2-0	5,090	1,600	1,495	23,521	940	12,764	...	...	...	100	100	...
Drills, English & Dutch ..	225	15	315	...	65	365	1,270	2,209	75	...	...	45	...	...
" American	150	...	135	15	...	2,775	375	5,475	1,425	...	...	...	...	...
Jeans, English & Dutch ..	50	...	60	...	...	300	710	5,560	...	...	...	...	...	200
" American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	610	...	1,790	1,850	780	4,238	790	4,220	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	1,385	...	20	...	...	0	720	15,105	100	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	50	...	4,650	800	30	700	...	1,498	...	...	...	...	...	40
Picadées & Sp. Stripes, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	...	50	140	...	...	550	220	440	...	...	...	...	...	150
" Damaske, Dyed	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	242	...	2,000	120	240	2,429	60	1,362	...	...	...	...	...	350
Printed T-Cloths	60	60	876	110	...	540	108	4,174	...	...	...	...	...	320
Printed Twills	144	...	84	...	80	902	504	660	...	...	...	...	...	240
Turkey Red Shirtings	235	150	790	400	950	2,840	2,280	2,041	100	...	...	...	750	150
Velvets	...	...	54	78	10	350	30	90	20	...	...	...	...	150
Velveteens	...	...	10	...	4	74	48	10	20	...	...	...	...	60
Handkerchiefs	500	20	1,400	700	940	1,764	...	820	...	...	...	...	...	5,400
Muslins	300	...	940	540	...	300	...	800	...	...	200	2,000	...	300
" Dimities	...	...	...	...	240	237	846	3,041	615	...	...	1,428	...	...
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	...	...	15	3	219	657	6	492	...	...	...	...	...	6
" English	...	...	...	...	60	234	24	294	12	...	...	...	...	120
Spanish Stripes	24	...	132	30	60	234	24	294	12	...	...	...	...	80
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	...	...	12	24	18	214	...	74	...	...	...	...	...	120
Camlets	130	10	120	150	160	1,130	80	497	...	30	...	30	...	180
Long Ellis	...	20	180	200	60	680	140	240	...	...	...	40	...	220
Lastings	20	...	166	20	230	830	110	360	150	...	...	...	...	40
" Cape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	480
Lastings, Cotton & Italians ..	160	...	1,680	780	110	7,164	1,468	3,514	250	...	...	80	30	60
Lustres, Plain	60	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	300
Figured Orleans	...	60	120	...	...	...	240	80	40	...	...	...	...	...
Lustres, Cape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	272	13	146	...	319	64	25	527	25	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	846	...	1,772	160	84	1,382	596	42	88	...	...	105	...	...

Groups.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS OF 1ST JAN., 1889.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1889.	Against last year to 11th April.	For the Week.	For the year from 1st Jan., 1889.	Against last year to 11th April.	* At date Estimated.	Against 11th April, 1888.
Grey Shirtings +.....Pcs.	172,245	1,540,872	1,577,831	2,820	1,419,921	1,752,925	838,368	1,067,902
T-Cloths, 32-in.	44,765	372,607	331,808	4,440	278,625	443,677	352,288	390,679
" 36-in.	9,310	94,150	47,511	...	133,950	101,778	186,555	126,062
White Shirtings	52,932	540,865	480,668	260	445,795	639,943	482,171	367,421
Drills, English and Dutch ..	8,584	87,130	73,820	...	109,804	135,187	284,879	138,392
" American	10,530	70,195	59,745	...	164,235	121,320	97,055	61,830
Jeans, English and Dutch ..	7,310	38,000	36,400	50	18,587	61,597	23,707	72,682
" American	...	640	2,510	...	...	9,000	...	24,410
Sheetings, English	15,440	139,634	217,564	480	90,689	305,562	455,019	282,328
" Am.	17,690	250,920	248,066	...	173,170	431,510	555,935	322,399
Dyed Shirtings	8,068	46,566	29,717	816	26,682	58,762	26,080	35,329
Pic. & Spot, Stripes, White	130	880	...	...	1,006	...	1,176	...
" Dyed	1,590	10,763	10,558	50	5,481	10,869	2,098	2,661
Damaske, Dyed	10	130	320	...	12	1,132	242	812
Chintzes	6,926	71,487	68,736	53	36,482	128,175	212,958	74,640
Printed T-Cloths	6,248	44,683	43,704	...	11,112	67,204	...	295,343
Printed Twills	2,694	32,579	27,237	4	16,210	49,066	80,673	44,399
Turkey Red Shirtings	11,186	137,725	106,703	2,300	101,747	118,678	143,209	82,135
Velvets	812	8,410	6,721	180	3,383	18,853	17,854	33,614
Velveteens	241	3,305	4,558	...	2,881	4,586	8,195	6,939
Handkerchiefs	12,532	133,194	88,201	2,731	81,041	191,208	197,822	299,939
Muslins	11,239	96,987	79,940	92	103,652	170,050	145,524	117,086
" Dimities	100	...	...	...	...	750	1,873	3,023
Cotton Yarn, Bombay	6,407	49,590	36,854	6,993	42,293	31,545	8,492	3,446
" English	1,398	10,177	12,356	...	10,024	14,466	16,914	5,398
Spanish Stripes	930	9,959	11,012	48	10,688	17,053	20,244	22,721
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	428	5,028	5,849	256	5,116	10,711	28,588	26,404
Camlets	2,507	24,527	27,057	50	23,827	23,564	22,110	33,507
Long Ellis	1,740	18,838	17,444	...	17,780	23,820	16,582	20,356
Lastings	2,446	29,499	30,109	80	23,730	44,103	65,182	62,998
" Cape	40	680	450	...	600	100	800	250
Cotton Lastings & Italians ..	15,556	147,255	189,027	170	55,679	352,123	400,538	263,981
Lustres, Plain	190	1,240	660	...	750	2,398	50	1,788
Figured Orleans	540	9,238	10,121	60	6,838	12,500	3,680	30,977
Lustres, Cape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	1,381	52,256	21,390	8,417	60,334	39,973	54,030	33,465
Iron—Nail Rod	5,025	73,522	24,353	...	32,970	14,948	110,590	27,428

+ Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Bellerophon*, *Iraouaddy*, *Chateau Leoville*, *Sussex*, *Cyclops*, *Nizam*, *Kaisow*, *Akashi Maru* and *Luertes*.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: *Ganges*, *Preussen*, and additional ex *Pekin*.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

12TH APRIL, 1889.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 1½d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 1½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 1½d. First Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 4s. 2½d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 2½d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 5.19; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.31; 6 months' sight, 5.34. On New York—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 97½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 27½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 304½; Calcutta, Rs. 304½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, £233.50. Silver Bars, £111.20. Mexican dollars, £73.75. Copper Cash, 1,400. Native Interest, mace 100.

SHARES.

BANKS.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—No business has been reported.
SHIPPING.—Shanghai Tugs are offering at £84. Douglas Steam Ship shares have been placed at \$81.
DOCKS.—Footings are offering at £81. Whampoa have been sold at 60 per cent. premium, and are now wanted at higher rates.
GAS.—French shares have been dealt in at £150.
MARINE INSURANCE.—Yangtzes have changed hands at £100, and are wanted. Cantons were sold at \$110, and National Marine Insurance shares at £4.
FIRE INSURANCE.—Cash business has been done in Hongkongs at \$360, and Chinas at \$81.
WHARFS.—Shanghai and Hongkew shares have been sold at £193. Birt's shares have been in strong demand, and business is reported at £35 to £37½.
MINING.—Sales of Peraks have been booked at 25, and of Sheridans at £215.
CARGO BOATS.—Co-operatives is reported at £45, and shares are wanted at that rate.
MISCELLANEOUS.—Business has been done in Shanghai Waterworks shares at £28½ and £28½ with exchange 4½, Hall & Holt: Co-operative shares at £29, and Shanghai Land Investment shares at £19.
LOANS.—China Merchants' S. N. Co.'s Loan Debentures have been sold at £106 and exchange 4½, plus accrued interest, and Chinese Government Loan Bonds, issue E, at £287½.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Closing.
<i>Banks.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	60,000	\$125	\$125	\$4,300,000	\$59,574.67	31 Dec. 88	* £1½	25 Feb. 89	155 % prem.
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ltd.	54,700	£10	£10	£115,002.72	.....	31 Mar. 87	* 3 %	22 Feb. 89	£10½
<i>Shipping.</i>									
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£2,488.76	31 Dec. 88	+ 3 %	11 Jan. 89	£86
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	£30,000.00	£1,922.89	31 Dec. 87	+ 5 %	23 July 88	£39
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	\$1,000	\$1,000	.....	\$143,500.00	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	12 Feb. 89	\$400
China Shippers' Mutual S.N. Co.	7,662	£20	£13	£33,425.91	£2,826.10	31 Dec. 87	+ 6 %	4 June 87	£13
Taku Tug and Lighter Co.	2,500	£100	£100	\$20,000.00	\$23,582.97	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	8 Feb. 88	\$150
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	\$500	\$500	\$18,000	\$157.21	31 Dec. 88	* 2½ %	17 Jan. 89	\$340
Footung Dock Co.	150	£100	£100	£2,900	£83.28	31 Dec. 87	* 5 %	14 Jan. 88	£81
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£67,000	\$1,281.47	31 Dec. 87	* 6 %	10 Jan. 89	\$192½
Compagnie du Gaz	100	£100	£100	\$19,647.18	\$89.90	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	1 Mar. 89	150
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.	24,000	\$53.33	\$25	\$650,000.00	\$261,119.28	30 Apr. 88	20 %	4 Sept. 88	\$79
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	4,969	£200	£50	\$264,578.42	\$502,640.14	30 June 88	† \$25.46	26 Apr. 88	\$310
Union In. Society of Canton Ltd.	10,000	£250	£25	\$696,500.00	\$484,923.17	30 June 88	+ 20 %	17 Oct. 88	\$101
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	\$25	\$25	\$175,914.31	.....	31 Mar. 88	* 3½ %	18 Jan. 89	\$100
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$28,711.50	\$15,285.84	31 Dec. 87	- 3 %	2 Apr. 88	\$160
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	£250	£50	\$304,000.00	\$457,321.48	30 Sep. 88	+ 10 %	8 Jan. 89	\$110
Straits Insurance Co., Limited.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$55,000.00	\$123,091.56	30 June 88	* 5 %	19 Sept. 88	\$20
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Limited	8,000	£50	£50	\$1,031,456	\$36,767.88	31 Dec. 88	+ 33 %	4 Mar. 89	\$360
China Fire Ins. Co., Limited	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$650,000	\$163,443.29	31 Dec. 88	+ 30 %	3 Mar. 87	\$82
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$13,000.00	\$54,215.25	31 Dec. 88	+ 8 %	1 Mar. 89	\$19
Singapore Insurance Co., Ltd.	29,176	\$100	\$20	\$11,875.91	\$6,898.10	31 Dec. 87	+ 10 %	5 Apr. 88	\$16½
<i>Wharfs.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	\$87,589.75	\$1,786.71	31 Dec. 88	* 7 %	27 Feb. 89	\$193
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,100	£50	£50	\$3,449.46	\$1,844.31	31 Oct. 87	* 3½ %	30 Nov. 88	\$37½
Footung Wharf & Godown Co.	2,300	£100	£100	£12,000	\$1,949.08	31 Dec. 88	+ 4 %	6 Feb. 89	\$82
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited.	17,000	\$100	\$100	.....	\$2,755.25	31 Dec. 88	+ 5 %	6 Mar. 89	\$198
<i>Mining.</i>									
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$13,543.63	31 Dec. 87	None.	.....	\$25
Sheridan Mining Co.	2,800	£100	£100	.....	\$15,979.95	31 Dec. 87	£16	10 Dec. 88	\$215
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	\$3,003.47	\$2,834.25	31 Dec. 88	* 4 %	5 Mar. 89	\$165
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	\$2,000.00	\$1,781.79	31 Dec. 88	+ 3 %	28 Feb. 89	\$45
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	6,000	£20	£20	\$5,000.00	\$1,304.91	31 Dec. 87	+ 7 %	12 Mar. 89	\$28½
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd., New Shares	1,200	£20	£15	.....	.....	.....	+ 7 %	12 Mar. 89	£22
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	\$12,333.69	31 Dec. 88	None.	.....	£17
Hall & Holtz Co-operative Co.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	28 Feb. 88	£24	1 May 88	£29
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	667	\$100	\$100	.....	\$2,653.56	31 Dec. 87	.....	.....	\$130
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	300	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$100
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited	20,000	£50	£20	.....	.....	.....	do.	.....	£19
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	do.	.....	\$120

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures— Issue 1882	£ 60,000.00	£ 20,000.00	£ 100	7 ¹ / ₂ %	Dec. & June.	£101 nom.
Do. 1883	£ 45,000.00	£ 45,000.00	£ 100	7 ¹ / ₂ %	Do.	£105 "
Do. 1885	£ 30,000.00	£ 30,000.00	£ 100	7 ¹ / ₂ %	Do.	£105 "
Do. 1888	£ 70,000.00	£ 70,000.00	£ 100	6 ¹ / ₂ %	Do.	£103 "
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	£ 238,000	£ 100	7 ¹ / ₂ %	Quarterly	£106 (a)
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1884 F	\$1,394,700.14	\$ 976,290.10	\$ 500	8 ¹ / ₂ %	30th June.	\$515 (a)
Do. do. 1884 C	\$1,594,700.14	\$1,315,760.11	\$ 500	8 ¹ / ₂ %	15th Oct.	\$510 (a)
Do. do. 1886 E	\$ 767,000.00	\$751,200.00	£ 250	7 ¹ / ₂ %	Mar. & Sept.	£287 ¹ / ₂ (a)

* For half-year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. £ A deficit. \$ Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.